



# VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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## OVERLOADING THE CAMEL.



The Woman: "That added burden will prevent the camel from getting through, and I refuse to allow it."

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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

### THE OUTLOOK.

Holidays make little difference to the work of the Union. They may alter its character slightly, but it is no less active. While all the world is making holiday the Suffragettes are holding meetings, selling the paper, speaking for the cause publicly and privately, and helping it in the hundred-and-one ways for which they find the day all too short. Even on her own holiday the Suffragette conducts a special little campaign among the new acquaintances she meets, and thus spreads the movement in ever wider circles. But with the closing days of September, when the world

returns to its ordinary work, the large meetings in various centres all over the country are recommenced. In London the free weekly meetings will be resumed early in October, and in November the great Albert Hall meeting will be upon us. In the meantime, support must be secured in every possible way for the Conciliation Bill, and the wrecking tactics of Mr. Lloyd George must be exposed.

#### Kilmarnock By-election.

The work at present being done by the W.S.P.U. at the Kilmarnock by-election is remarkably encouraging. The meetings have been crowded and enthusiastic, and the explanation of the attitude of the Union in the fight has been thoroughly appreciated. The electors are asking how it is possible that Mr. Gladstone, who professes Liberal principles, can be opposed to the concession of voting rights to women, especially now that the Liberal Government are prepared to leave the question to the decision of the House of Commons in the year 1912. It is not, of course, possible to predict the result of the contest, but it is certain that many votes will be turned away from the Liberal and Conservative candidates, owing to their Anti-Suffrage attitude, and given to Mr. McKerrall, the Labour candidate, who is a whole-hearted supporter of the Conciliation Bill.

#### Sauce for Goose and Gander.

Of the proceedings of the registration courts, which have been much in evidence in the papers lately, should serve to undeceive any woman who has been taught that the vote is of little value. Even accidental temporary disfranchisement is regarded by men as a very serious hardship; how much more serious, then, is the permanent disfranchisement of women, not merely as individuals, but as a sex! For it cannot be too

clearly realised that the value of a vote to a woman will be precisely similar to its value to a man; it will serve to protect her interests and to enable her to impress her views with regard to questions of the day on those who have charge of the government of the country. A feature of this year's registration courts is the effect of the new latchkey decision; an article by Mr. Brailsford dealing with this question, with special reference to its effect on the Conciliation Bill, will be found on Page 807 of this issue.

#### A Woman Disfranchises Men.

A curious case is reported in the *West London Observer* of last Friday, in which a woman was the means of disfranchising 45 men, owing to the fact that as landlord she had neglected to pay the rates of the houses of which they were tenants. The Liberal agent said it was not right that tenants "who paid their rent regularly should be made to suffer," and contended that proceedings could be instituted against the landlord for breach of agreement. The Revising Barrister said it ought to be dealt with by legislation and "was a very serious matter indeed." While not in any way condoning the woman's neglect, we would draw attention to the fact, which it does not seem to have occurred to anyone in the court to point out, that she herself would still be penalised in the same way even had she paid her rates. It is certainly a curious anomaly that such a large number of votes, as in this present instance, should depend on the punctual payment of rates by voteless women!

#### How Widows were Left Out of the Insurance Bill.

In the August-September issue of *Unity* (the monthly journal of the Foresters, Oddfellows, and kindred societies) an account is given of the original scheme of State Insurance arranged between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the National Conference of Friendly



Societies. This scheme differs in important particulars from the present Bill, especially in its treatment of women. Included in the original scheme approved by the Friendly Societies were benefits chargeable to the men's insurance on behalf of their widows and orphans. These provided for—

(1) A weekly allowance of 5s. for every widow having a child or children under 16 dependent upon her, to be continued only until such child (or the youngest of such children) attain the age of 16.

(2) A weekly allowance of 1s. 6d. for every fatherless child under 16 until attaining that age (whether the mother survives or not).

The rate of sickness benefit under the original scheme was 5s. a week alike for men and women. From this statement it appears that the shameful treatment of women under the present Bill is not due to the recommendation of the friendly societies, but had a political origin. Mr. Lloyd George altered the scheme so as to give a larger sickness benefit to men at the expense of the widows and orphans. Is there any room left to doubt that in politics the voteless go to the wall?

#### The Johnson-Wells Fight.

We put the following question to those who urge the physical force argument as a reason why women should not have the vote. Suppose, in spite of protests, the fight between Johnson and Wells take place; suppose that Johnson wins owing to greater physical strength; suppose further it to be demonstrated that a particular race of coloured men, say the Zulus, are man for man physically stronger than the White race; does anyone suggest that that should be the ground not merely for enfranchising the Zulus, but for disenfranchising the White race in South Africa and for confining the Suffrage merely to the Black?

#### The Written Law.

Every week brings us accounts of cases in which the most outrageous offences against women are slightly punished, but it is seldom that such striking contrasts are reported in one paper as are sent to us by a correspondent, culled from *The People* of Saturday, September 16. At the Old Bailey a youth of seventeen was convicted of an indecent assault upon a little girl of nine years. In spite of the fact that a clergyman gave evidence that the principal part of the time of the park caretakers was taken up with looking after men who molested young children, the judge simply bound the prisoner over. Another man of twenty-one was convicted of a criminal assault upon his sister-in-law, who was under sixteen years of age, and who, it seems from the evidence, is in the terrible position of being about to become a mother. The prisoner was sentenced to four months' hard labour. Yet the sentence of three months' hard labour, which was passed at the same court on a man convicted of stealing with violence, was described by the judge as "an extremely light sentence."

#### Old Time Wife Correction.

Another case comes from the West Ham police-court on Saturday last, when Tom Thomas was summoned for assaulting his wife. Evidence showed that the husband had struck her, giving her black eyes. The woman, whose face was badly bruised, said that her husband had locked her in a room without food, and on one occasion had locked her there for three days and nights. The defendant, though he denied the assault, admitted that he had locked up his wife for several hours. The magistrate merely bound the man over to keep the peace for six months, remarking that his ideas of managing a wife were rather out of date!

#### PROFESSOR DICEY EXPLAINS.

To the Editor of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Sir,—In the issue of August 18 of VOTES FOR WOMEN you make a short quotation from an abbreviated report (I presume given in an Oxford paper) of a speech delivered by me on July 14 in Mr. Massie's grounds at Charlton Lea, near Oxford. The quotation is as follows: "The suffrage agitation is not a decent agitation, it is not a respectable agitation, it is not an agitation which a good man or woman would carry on." The speech was an extempore one. I cannot even be sure that the words you have cited are an accurate report of what I said. But in any case my words taken alone and torn from their context charge me with an opinion which I have never held and never expressed, viz., that no good man or good woman could take part in the movement in favour of votes for women. My speech was made among friends who could not attribute this sense to my language. They many of them knew both my books and my career. They knew that I have always numbered among the friends, whom I honoured and respected, men and women who were in favour of giving votes to women.

More than this, I was for many years, as every man in Oxford knows, an avowed supporter of the Suffragist movement. I have made no concealment of this fact. My book, entitled "Votes for Women," is written to explain my change of conviction. Nobody present felt my speech inconsistent with my position. The explanation of your misapprehension is that the expression I used referred not to the movement in favour of votes for women, but to the mode of agitation by which that movement has been disgraced on the part of the Suffragettes. If my speech, even as wrongly reported, is read as a whole, my true meaning becomes clear. My words referred to what are popularly called the "fighting Suffragettes." With regard to them I have nothing to explain, I have nothing to retract. I shall always take leave to use the plainest language in denunciation of their methods.

A. V. DICEY.

Oxford, September 13, 1911.

## THE ILLITERATE VOTER.

By Evelyn Sharp.

"You used to be much more amusing, Peggy, before you were a speaker," grumbled the injured friend who dogs the steps of every Suffragette. "You didn't hunt up statistics all through luncheon in those days, and then dash off to the East End to talk to people who can't understand a word you say."

"Dearest," laughed Peggy, stuffing the statistics into a bag, "they are not criminal aliens—or even a drawing-room audience. They're nice working women, so—"

"They won't give you a hearing, I'm certain," said the injured friend. "You'd much better come to a *matinée* with me. What's the use of converting people who can't read or write? My brother, who has no objection to giving some women the vote—he's very liberal-minded, as you know—says he only opposes your Bill because he is afraid of the illiterate voter."

"So am I—terrified of her!" murmured the anxious speaker. "She knows so much more than I do. Sorry about the theatre, darling; I'll go every day for a week when the Bill is through. When will that be? Never? Oh, don't be so despondent! With liberal-minded men like your brother all over the place, we shall soon—oh, all right! Good-bye, everybody."

The injured friend sought an ally in Peggy's mother. "Don't you feel nervous about her when she goes off alone to these stummy places?" she asked her.

"Yes, I do," said Peggy's mother. "So, I have no doubt, does Peggy. But one has to get over these things."

"I thought you were an Anti!" cried Peggy's friend, feeling her world rocking to its foundations.

"No, I was never that," explained Peggy's mother. "Before Peggy went to prison I believe I was a liberal-minded person, like your brother. Perhaps you were thinking of that?" Then they began to argue, as Peggy's mother meant they should.

When Peggy arrived at the meeting, nervously rehearsing in her mind the main points of the economic connection between working women and the Parliamentary vote, she found an audience of three amiable ladies and one little girl.

"And if it hadn't ha' been for the milkman, you wouldn't have had them," said Mrs. Parkinson, the newly-made convert who had promised to assemble a few friends for Peggy to talk to, in her ground-floor tenement. "That's me all over. I'm up, or I'm down. To-day I'm down; and I couldn't ha' gone round asking of people to come in, not if you was to pay me, I couldn't. Whatever shall I do when she comes? I says to myself. Then I heard 'im knock, and I was out in two ticks and copped them as they come downstairs with their jugs. Didn't I now, Mrs. Hions?"

"You did, Mrs. Parkinson," assented a large lady in a velvet cape. "I couldn't think what you was after, not at first. Somethink about a Bill I caught, and it fair give me a turn, me not owin' nothink to nobody—"

"Nor I couldn't made out what she meant with her Conciliation Bill till she explained it was only politics. Then o' course I understood," chimed in another lady with the satisfied air of one who knew.

The third lady not showing any desire to explain her presence at the meeting, Peggy took her courage in both hands and her statistics in one, and made a start. She thought from the interested faces of her audience that she was getting on rather well, when the lady who understood politics broke in with a hearty assent.

"Just what I always say!" she said approvingly. "Let the men keep up their book learnin'—they've got the time, being out o' work half the year, and gettin' their evenings free at all times. Then they can pass it on to us what ain't got no time to spare for sech amusements. My 'usband's a good 'usband. He'll set the whole evening, many a time when I'm mending the clothes, and read the paper to me beautiful, he will, right from the beginning to the last page. There was a beautiful tea gown on the last page yesterday."

"Ah!" said Mrs. Hions, admiringly. "That's where you get your politics from, Mrs. Milsom."

Peggy made another start, and produced a profound impression with some statistics of women's wages. The third lady, who had hitherto said nothing, leaned forward suddenly. Instinctively, Peggy paused.

"Now you're talkin'," said the woman, in an odd, repressed tone. "I've made cardboard boxes at one-and-four the gross; it took me a day and a 'alf to do it, and it cost me twopence-farthing in glue, besides makin' an outer to put them in. Workin' all day, I made six shillings a week; when my 'usband was out o' work, I sat up 'alf the night, too. That's true what I'm saying; that's true."

The sudden pause that always follows the true saying was broken by the little girl. "The oil stove's smoking," she said, putting up her head and sniffing the air like a terrier.

The audience followed her example, and, by the same process of reasoning, arrived at the same con-

clusion, excepting Mrs. Parkinson who emphatically denied the existence of a stove. "If I'm not mistook, it's Mrs. Hions's velvet cape," she said.

"You're right, Mrs. Parkinson!" cried the jovial owner of the cape. "If I hadn't clean forgot it had just been renovated—"

"A drop o' paraffin do fetch it up wonderful, don't it?" said Mrs. Milsom, sympathetically.

"Go on, deary," said Mrs. Parkinson, encouragingly, to Peggy; and Peggy went on.

For about ten minutes she kept them well in hand. She knew what she had to say to them now, and she had lost her nervousness from the moment that the quiet woman had spoken. Nervousness seemed a contemptible little thing in the face of big things that had to be set right; and statistics became cold before the look in the eyes of the woman who had proved them true at the expense of her youth and her happiness. So for about ten minutes there was no interruption.

Then the quiet woman stirred again. "Women ain't got no time for politics, do they say?" she cut in swiftly, as Peggy was proceeding to dispose of this ancient theory. "Women have got time to work and suffer; why ain't they got time to do somethink to make things better for themselves? One thing more or less ain't going to make much difference to a woman's work. It's men that say that, 'cause they can't do more'n one thing at a time themselves—they don't never have to, that's why. My 'usband, e's a builder's labourer—when he's in work, that is. He just hands the bricks to another man that lays 'em; he don't have to think, he just does what he's told. So does the man what lays the bricks; he does what the foreman tells 'im. When they come 'ome, there's a woman to feed 'em and mend 'em and lay out their wages for 'em; they never 'ave to do more'n one thing at a time, whether it's work or drink. Look at us women! Look at us!" Her voice rose, and the audience did look, nodding assent. "We does the thinkin' and the managin' and the contrivin' as well as the work. We does half-a-dozen things at once, all day long, and then we ain't done by midnight, sometimes. You know what'd happen if the men tried to do half-a-dozen things at once. Which of us would give 'im the baby to mind and the kettle to watch, and the pinafores to mend, and the children to get off to school, all in the same minute?" Derision was loudly expressed at such a suggestion, and the impromptu speaker turned to the one she had supplanted. "Them as says women can't vote as well as cook the dinner dunno what they're gassin' about, miss," she said, in a milder tone. "They dunno 'ow many things she has to do already when she's cookin' the dinner; an' what's more, they don't care!"

"Pore things! you can't expect 'em to know things like that—not men, you can't," said Mrs. Milsom, indulgently.

Peggy, feeling that all the converting had been done by the speaker who was not the official one, asserted herself gently to agree to this. "No," she said, "you can't expect them to know all that. That's why you ought to be able to tell them what they don't know at the ballot box. At the same time, we mustn't forget that men, too, have their point of view to express—"

"Oh, yuss!" said the quiet woman, indifferently. "Eddicated men, no doubt. But when it comes to the workin' classes, it's the women what does the thinkin', 'cause they have to."

"Now, I call that a little 'ard on the men, poor lams!" declared Mrs. Milsom. "My 'usband, he reads politics to me all the evenin'—"

"Let's have a cup o' tea all round," said Mrs. Parkinson.

The injured friend was still with Peggy's mother when Peggy returned from her encounter with the woman who was some day going to be the illiterate voter.

"Well," asked Peggy's friend, "did they give you a hearing?"

Peggy twinkled all over. "I can't honestly say they did," she answered truthfully. "But my meeting is converted."

"So is mine," said Peggy's mother.

### Special Announcement

- Vol. IV. -

"VOTES FOR WOMEN"

will be ready early in October. Price 10/6. Post Free in the United Kingdom - 11/6.

Orders should be sent without delay to The Publisher, "Votes for Women" Office, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.



## THE BY-ELECTION AT KILMARNOCK BURGH.

Organiser: Miss Wylie, 30, Titchfield Street, Kilmarnock.

Polling Day, Tuesday, September 26.

Candidates.  
Sir J. D. Ross.....(U.)  
Mr. W. G. Gladstone.....(L.)  
Mr. T. McKerrall.....(Lab.)

Result in Dec., 1910: A. R. Rainy (L.), 8,687; J. D. Black (C.), 5,569. Maj., 3,088.

The question of woman suffrage is playing an important part in the by-election of Kilmarnock Burghs, and the obstinate opposition of both Liberal and Conservative candidates to giving votes to women is causing considerable comment in the constituency. The Women's Social and Political Union are working hard to secure the defeat of both these candidates, and the return of Mr. McKerrall, the Labour candidate, who writes as follows:—"I pledge myself to be an enthusiastic supporter of the Conciliation Bill, and will resist to the utmost any amendments calculated to endanger the passing of that much delayed measure."

Great and enthusiastic meetings have already been held by the Union, and much interest is being taken in the arrangements for the meetings to be addressed by Miss Christabel Pankhurst as announced below.

We are also informed that combined suffrage meetings were to be held in Kilmarnock on Thursday after we had gone to press, and in Dumbarton to-day (Friday), at which the Women's Social and Political Union, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and the Women's Freedom League would all be represented, and Mr. George Lansbury would be among the speakers.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

Tuesday night.

It is safe to say that, from the geographical point of view, the Kilmarnock Burghs by-election is the most difficult we have yet had to deal with in Scotland. Steamboat, motor car, ferry boat, as well as the ordinary railway train, all have to be pressed into the service of the W.S.P.U. To tell how gallantly and with what ingenuity the purely physical difficulties of the situation have been surmounted would fill a volume. Suffice it to say that in each town the purple, white, and green flag is flying bravely! No need, as in the early days, to fight our way into popular favour—we are received with an invariable politeness and, indeed, enthusiasm. The same spirit is abroad everywhere—in the sleepy, old-world market square of Renfrew, in the busy industrial centres of Rutherglen and Port Glasgow, and in the ancient burgh of Dumbarton, over which the great, castle-crowned Rock still casts the glamour of a romantic past.

To liken the splendid, concentrated, ceaseless energy of our workers and speakers to the activities of the oft-quoted beehive is to use but a pale and altogether inadequate metaphor. They are everywhere—bill distributing, chalking (in one of the towns the principal street is a perfect mosaic of chalk marks), and holding meetings. In each of the towns the voice of the Suffragette is in the land, at the dinner-hour, in the afternoon, and in the evening.

In Kilmarnock a packed indoor meeting was held in a hall which accommodated over 600. Even our ancient enemy, the *Glasgow Herald*, is constrained to acknowledge the presence and strength of the Suffragist forces, and refers to our "electioneering capacities" in a leading article.

"Vote for McKerrall and Votes for Women in 1912" is the most conspicuous legend of the by-election. It occupies a prominent position in our Committee-rooms, the win-

dows of which are always surrounded by a host of interested spectators. The crowds which gather round our speakers are splendid. They applaud vociferously whenever a specially telling point is made, and laugh delightedly at the flashes of humour which illuminate the more serious appeal. There is a vivacity, an emotional fervour in these working men and women that reminds one of the sunny South. If immovable taciturnity, stern reserve, and deafness to the emotional appeal are characteristic qualities of the typical Scot, then the men and women who compose these crowds strangely belie their nationality. Yet the man who, in a white heat of indignation, hurried off from one of our meetings to give the Liberal and Conservative candidates what he characterised as "a hot time at the heckling" was, to all appearance, a typical Scot—large boned, muscular, ruddy. Nor could he be suspected of Southern origin who, in the broadest vernacular, swore under his breath that he had never heard a finer speaker than Miss Wylie, and that she "beat the other candidates hollow." The old woman, too, on the fringe of the crowd, who was observed to snort indignantly every time the name of Mr. Lloyd George fell from the speaker's lips, had, in all probability, never set foot across the Scottish border. So far at least as the Kilmarnock Burghs by-election is concerned, the reserve so often imputed to the Scottish character is a myth. Both men and women bombard the wagonettes with their hard-earned coppers, eagerly demanding "the paper." The free literature vanishes "like snow flakes on the river"—if it were bank notes of the realm, it could hardly be seized upon with more avidity.

Perhaps the most touching incident of the campaign was supplied by a little group of women who, when the meeting had dispersed, overtook the speaker and begged her to tell them more, "Everything—from the beginning." It would require the pen of a genius adequately to describe the faces of these women as they listened to the true story of the hunger-strike, with its accompanying horror of forcible feeding. They flushed and paled with indignation and pity, and their eyes grew dark with tears sternly repressed, but the wonderful thing in their faces was the deep, unmistakable glow of pride—pride in their sister women who could do and dare so nobly for the sake of a great cause. To them militancy seemed absolutely right, absolutely natural.

No one, indeed, in these burghs ever expresses any doubt as to the moral rightness or practical wisdom of the militant tactics. "You'll get the vote soon," said one man, "and," he added, removing his pipe from his mouth to make his words more emphatic, "it's the military tactics that's done it." The men who come to our meetings, weary of the political dry bones, which are all the Conservative and Liberal candidates have to offer them, laugh to scorn the fears of these antiquated gentlemen in regard to the entrance of women into politics. The working men know better—they know that when the mother-half of the race has entered at last upon her inheritance, then, and then only, will a new era dawn for the poor and the oppressed and the despised ones of this earth. It must be obvious, even to the least spiritually minded, that invisible powers, working silently and steadily like the forces of nature, have prepared the way. Knowing this, we can look forward into the future, whatever the result of this particular by-election may be, with a serene confidence which nothing can disturb.

M. McP.

Miss Wylie wishes to thank all those who have so cheerfully and efficiently worked so hard during its progress. Miss Frances McPhun deserves special and hearty thanks for giving up her well-earned holiday and devoting herself entirely to the work of organisation. Miss Savage, Mrs. White, Miss Hannan, Miss Underwood and Mrs. John have all spoken, and Mrs. Archie Russell, Miss McQuade and Miss Thompson have "chaired" for the first time—Mrs. Boyd and Miss McDiarmid for help by bill distributing, canvassing, etc. In fact, it has been all hands to work! The expenses are, naturally, heavy, so "Vesuvius" is heartily thanked for a contribution of £5 towards them, and the organiser hopes others will follow this excellent lead. Mrs. Drummond's presence has been a wonderful help. The Edinburgh workers, Miss Mitchell, Miss Hudson, Miss Gorrie, have each taken charge of a district, and thus have spread the work to places that would otherwise have been untouched. To Miss Muriel Scott, who spoke—giving up her school holiday for the purpose—many thanks; the same to Miss E. Wylie, who left Arran to help. More helpers are needed for the few remaining days, as more and more meetings are held; so will those members who are drifting back to Glasgow kindly call at the office and state what time they can give daily! Workers are particularly needed for the midday meetings.

## MEETINGS ARRANGED.

Friday, Sept. 22.—Dumbarton, Church Gates, Miss A. Scott, Miss H. McLean, 8 p.m.; Kilmarnock, Miss Mitchell, Miss M. Scott, 8 p.m.; Port Glasgow, The Harbour, Miss Hudson, Miss B. Wylie, 8 p.m.; Renfrew Town Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 7 p.m.; Rutherglen, The Fountain, Miss McQuade, Mrs. Drummond, 8 p.m.; Stewart and Lloyd's Works, Miss B. Wylie, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 23.—Dumbarton, Church Gates, Mrs. Craig, Miss M. Scott, 8 p.m.; Kilmarnock, Oldfellows' Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 8 p.m.; Port Glasgow, The Harbour, Miss Hudson, Mrs. Drummond, 8 p.m.; Renfrew, The Cross, Miss Gorrie, Miss Hunter, 7.30 p.m.; Rutherglen, Town Hall, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 3 p.m.; The Fountain, Miss Hannan, Miss B. Wylie, 7.30 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 25.—Dumbarton, Church Gates, Mrs. John, Mrs. Drummond, 7.30 p.m.; Kilmarnock, Leigh Kirk, Miss Mitchell, Miss E. Wylie, 8 p.m.; Port Glasgow, The Harbour, Miss B. Wylie, Miss Hannan, 7.30; Renfrew, The Cross, Miss Gorrie, Miss Savage, 7.30 p.m.; Rutherglen, The Fountain, Mrs. White, Miss Savage, 7.30 p.m.

## A REMINDER TO MR. MASTERMAN.

The Government are taking great pains to educate the country on questions affecting the national welfare, such as Home Rule for Ireland and the National Insurance Bill. But there is another question which, simply because it affects at least one half of the community, ought to be settled before these other matters are dealt with by the nation. That question is the political enfranchisement of women.

Last Saturday a great demonstration took place in connection with the National Conference of Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Brotherhoods and kindred societies. It was addressed by Mr. Masterman, Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department, and others. Pre-

vious to the meeting Mr. Hugh Franklin, of the Men's Political Union, sought an interview with Mr. Masterman in the following letter:—

Sir,—There are, I believe, many ardent Suffragists in the hall to-night, who are very anxious to hear some remarks from you on the subject of the Conciliation Bill. Would you, therefore, be good enough to grant me a short interview to give you information on this matter? Trusting, Sir, that you will see your way to consent to this.—I am, yours truly, HUGH FRANKLIN.

The interview, however, was not granted, and a silent protest was therefore made by a number of Suffragists who were in the hall. One of those present thus describes the scene:—

We found ourselves exactly opposite to and facing the speakers on the platform. The conference opened with a hymn, followed by a prayer. In the speeches that followed reference was made to many of the crying evils which women are so anxious to abolish, and mention was made of the 100,000 German workmen who had met to declare there should be no more war. "We, too, say there shall be no more war," cried the speaker, amidst applause from the audience. "I wonder if they will remember that when we show our banners," one thought to oneself, knowing how soon the test was to come. One wondered whether the spirit that made Martin Luther cry out, "Here I stand: I can no other!" would be recognised or appreciated by these people when it came before them in an unaccustomed form and in conflict with their preconceived notions! After a hymn, in which we changed the line "Leagued for man's emancipation" by the alteration of one word, Mr. Masterman rose to speak.

After he had spoken for nearly ten minutes on the spirit of unrest that was abroad, and the need for social reform, a quiet-looking woman in black stood up in the stalls, and held up a green banner. It was strange how this quiet action roused the martial spirit of those who had so recently declared against war; but perhaps knocking a woman about is not war! The banner torn violently away, and the excited audience, who had so rudely interrupted Mr. Masterman's speech with their cries of "Shame!" and "Disgraceful!" quieted by the chairman, the woman was allowed to resume her seat.

Two minutes later, a young girl near the same spot, rose quietly and displayed another message, also written on a banner. Again the same unnecessary disturbance. The chairman pointed out that the women were saying nothing. "Let them show their nicely-worked banners," he said. "They need not disturb us." But the chorus of hisses and loud cries prevented the speaker from continuing.

It now seemed to us time for our message to go out. Unfolding the big banner, we stood on chairs and held it up so that it filled up the open square of the box. It was only a message asking Mr. Masterman to speak of the Conciliation Bill, but the whole Albert Hall seemed to give one big hiss, and people left their seats in the stalls to tear at the banner. They clung to it from the front, and dragged on it from the box on my right, so that they really pulled against each other. As I held on to my corner I wondered at the expressions of rage and fury that glared at us. One man, who had hissed in my face a dozen times and told me to sit down, was only quieted when I said, "Here I stand: I can no other!"

The banner was torn to pieces, and my cloak nearly torn off my back before the chairman was able to restore quiet. When everyone else had sat down and peace was restored, we resumed our seats. Not a word had been interjected by any one of us, and the meeting need not have been disturbed if people could only have kept their heads—and their tempers.

Another says:—There could not have been a worse uproar when I took my banner out of its hiding place than if I had actually struck Mr. Masterman a severe blow. My hands are still swollen from the blows on them, because I did not willingly let my flag go. One of the speakers quoted Luther's famous words: "Here I stand: I can no other." I am sure each of our women must have found those words most encouraging. They braced me up, so that I did not care a rap for their blows.

On one of the banners were the words "Votes for Women in 1912."



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**Daniel Neal and Sons, Ltd.**

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A veritable boon to women.

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Need not be removed when washing, but will outwear several blouses.

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Sizes—12, 13, 14, 15 inches from 1/2 inch below neckband to waist line at back. If any difficulty in obtaining, send P.O. 1/1 (Cotton) or 1/7 (Silk), or, if preferred, send your blouse with an additional 4d. and it will be returned with the fastener affixed, carriage paid.

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SOLUBLE COCOA ONLY

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HOME, INDIA, AND COLONIES.

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## SOME W.S.P.U. SHOPS.

In VOTES FOR WOMEN recently we have given our readers some pictures illustrating the extraordinary growth of the work of organisation at the head offices of the Women's Social and Political Union in London. In one of these we showed a room at Clements Inn which contained, as an integral part of its fittings, a large map of the British Isles. In this map are pins with heads of various colours, while some have a minute flag attached to them. These distinctions are to show at a glance what is the exact nature of the work carried on at the various centres.

In this and some future issues of the paper we propose to give illustrations of some of these important local centres, both in various parts of London and throughout the country.

The picture below shows the flourishing offices of the Croydon W.S.P.U., at 2, Station Buildings, West

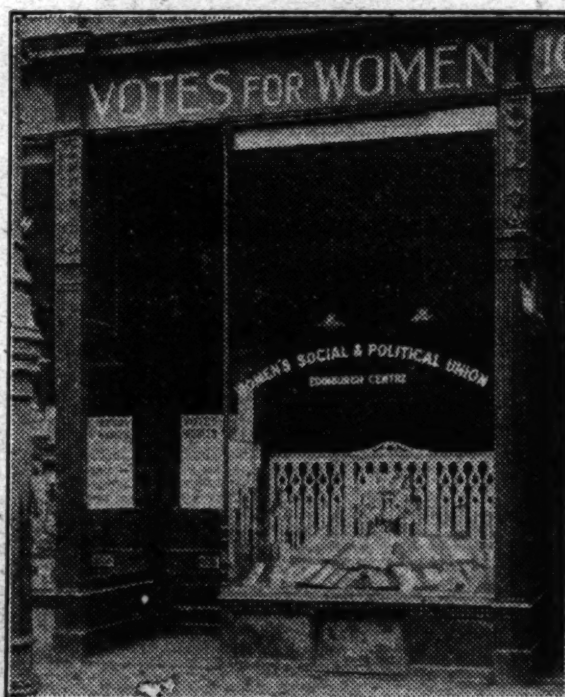


### CROYDON.

2, Station Buildings, West Croydon.

Croydon. These offices were opened at the beginning of December, 1909, and from them an immense amount of valuable work has been done. During the General Election campaign of 1910 much canvassing and other work was carried on, and it will be remembered by those who took part in the historic Suffrage Procession of June 17, 1911, that Croydon members were the "Roses" of England in the beautiful and symbolic Pageant of Empire. The Honorary Secretaries of the Croydon W.S.P.U. are Mrs. Cameron Swan and Miss Leslie Hall.

It is a long step from Croydon to Scotland, and we must pass over many important centres on the way. We give next a picture of the very attractive shop window at 8, Melville Place, Queensferry Street, Edinburgh. This shop was opened in May, 1909, and



### EDINBURGH.

8, Melville Place, Queensferry Street.

is the centre of much splendid work. In the VOTES FOR WOMEN competition of 1910, the Edinburgh W.S.P.U. reached the splendid total of 6,293 copies during the three months. Edinburgh was also the scene of a fine Historic Pageant in October, 1909, when a great impression was made by the beauty of the scenes from Scottish history which were represented. Edinburgh members are now welcoming back Miss Lucy Burns to her work as organiser, after a brief absence which it was at one time feared would permanently take her away from the work in Scotland.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £250,000 FUND.

September 11 to September 16.

Already acknow- ledged.....£103,803 0 8	Mrs. Ionides (per)...	0 0 8
B. G. Clayton, Esq. .... 1 1 0	Mrs. Brightland.....	0 5 0
Miss Grace W. Charles... 0 5 0	Miss Champ.....	0 2 0
Miss Margaret H. Craw- ford..... 3 12 2	Mrs. Bennett.....	0 5 0
A Member..... 0 5 0	Miss Bennett (per)...	0 1 8
Miss C. I. Craig..... 0 2 6	Miss Baugust.....	0 2 8
Mrs. B. Browster..... 1 0 0	Mrs. Wallers.....	0 5 0
"A Forres Sympathiser"..... 0 2 6	Mrs. Shadlow.....	0 3 0
Miss H. F. Pocock..... 1 0 0	Mrs. Preston.....	0 2 0
Miss M. H. Newstead... 0 5 0	Miss Pegg.....	0 5 0
H. J. Taylor, Esq. (for mending punctures)..... 0 2 8	Mrs. Peake (per)...	0 1 10
per Miss K. L. Hatch Esq. .... 250 0 0	Miss H. Peake.....	0 0 8
Miss Caroline L. Downing 5 0 0	Miss L. Teomans.....	0 1 0
per Miss S. Fife.....	Mrs. J. Swain.....	0 5 0
Mrs. Bignell..... 0 1 0	Mrs. E. Tyley.....	0 10 0
Miss Edmonds..... 0 2 6	Miss C. Swain.....	0 2 8
Mrs. Green (goods sold for Rummage Sale)..... 0 5 0	Mrs. Orpin.....	0 0 1
Do. (transferred Sub- scription)..... 0 2 8	Mrs. Wyatt.....	0 1 0
per Lady Constance Lytton— Miss Marie Hamilton..... 0 2 6	Mrs. Taylor.....	0 5 0
per Mrs. M. Manuel.....	Mrs. Reynolds.....	0 1 0
Sale of work and pictures..... 0 6 5	Mrs. West.....	0 0 8
per Miss L. Mitchell— Miss Edith Hudson..... 0 1 0	Miss Swain.....	0 5 0
Miss Melrose..... 0 2 0	Miss Stafford.....	0 1 0
Miss A. Murray..... 0 2 0	Miss Wyatt (per)...	0 1 0
Miss L. Mitchell..... 1 0 0	Mrs. Martell.....	0 5 0
per Miss D. Pethick— Mrs. Bennett..... 0 6 8	Miss D. Pethick.....	0 2 8
Mrs. H. Bennett..... 0 2 2	Miss West.....	0 1 0
Mrs. R. Bennett..... 0 2 2	Miss Maraden.....	0 2 0
The Misses Brightland..... 0 3 0	Miss Paulson.....	0 2 8
Mrs. Folwell..... 0 3 6	per Miss Fraser Smith— Miss Clara Grant..... 0 5 0	
Miss B. Doudney..... 0 1 1	Profit on Office Sales 1 12 8	
Miss Jarvis..... 0 3 0	Miss F. H. McFarlane 1 8 8	
Miss Barnes..... 0 3 3		
Miss Carrier..... 2 2 0		
Mrs. Marriott..... 0 3 3		
Mrs. Shaw..... 0 2 0		
Mrs. Newton..... 0 6 6		
Miss Yeomans..... 0 3 3		
Miss Wallers..... 0 3 3		
per Mrs. Peake (for banners)..... 0 0 9		
Mrs. Brockington..... 0 0 8		
Mrs. Hollingworth..... 0 5 0		
Mrs. Folwell..... 0 1 6		
Mrs. Barnes..... 0 0 6		
Miss L. Brighton..... 0 0 2		
"C. B. P."..... 0 10 0		
Mrs. and Misses Frishy..... 0 5 0		
Mrs. Fordham..... 0 2 6		
Mrs. Goodliffe..... 0 2 8		
Miss Grant..... 0 2 0		
Mrs. Ionides..... 0 2 0		

Mrs. Pankhurst's Scottish Tour.	
per Miss Anna Dugdale— Part proceeds of meet- ings held, balance to follow:—	
Ballater meeting ...	10 4 0
Forness do. ....	12 3 1
Carnoustie do. ....	0 15 7
Blairstown do. ....	8 15 10
St. Andrews do. ....	12 9 0
Largs do. ....	7 1 9
Lossiemouth do. ....	8 8 5
Mrs. Fry.....	3 3 0
Mrs. Graham.....	15 0 0
Mrs. Duthie.....	0 2 6
Countess of Wemyss and March.....	5 0 0
Miss Low.....	1 0 0

Sales in General Office.....	1 0 0
Membership Fees.....	0 17 0
Collections, etc.:—	
London.....	6 9 0
Per Miss A. Davies.....	1 5 0
Per Miss D. Pethick.....	1 0 0

Total—£104,178 2 1
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### Mrs. Pankhurst's Scottish Tour.

per Miss Una Dugdale—

Part proceeds of meet-  
ings held, balance  
to follow:—

Ballater meeting... 10 4 0

Forres do... 12 3 1

Carnoustie do... 0 15 7

Blairgowrie do... 8 15 10

St. Andrews do... 12 9 0

Largs do... 7 1 9

Lossiemouth do... 8 8 5

Mrs. Fry..... 3 3 0

Mrs. Graham..... 15 0 0

Mrs. Duthie..... 0 2 6

Countess of Wemyss  
and March..... 5 0 0

Miss Low..... 1 0 0

Sales in General Office 1 0 0

Membership Fees..... 0 17 0

Collections, etc.:—

London..... 6 9 0

per Miss A. Davies..... 1 5 0

per Miss D. Pethick 1 0 0

**Total—£104,178 2 1**

Cheques should be made out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and crossed "Barclay and Co."

## W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Mrs. Pankhurst has undertaken another lecturing tour in America and will start on Wednesday, October 4. During her tour she will address the Women's Suffrage Convention at Louisville, and meetings at New York and Boston. It is interesting to note that while lecturing in Toronto Mrs. Pankhurst will be the guest of Miss Denison at her beautiful summer home Bon Echo, Lake Massanoga, where Charlotte Perkins Gilman was inspired to write her poem "The Rainbow Flag of Peace." Thus are the Suffrage leaders forming a great international friendly belt around the world.

### At the London Pavilion.

Prior to her departure for America, Mrs. Pankhurst will address the opening afternoon meeting at the London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, on Monday, October 2, at 3 for 3.15. Members are asked to make this meeting widely known and to bring their friends with them to this, the first of the season. The evening meetings will be resumed at the Steinway Hall on Thursday, October 5, at 8 p.m. These weekly meetings are free and are also held in all centres where the Union is represented. Particulars may be found on pages 809 et seq.

### Albert Hall Meeting, November 16.

Members who have returned from their holidays are reminded that a most important work of the moment is the sale of tickets for the Albert Hall meeting on November 16. This meeting, coming as it does, during a momentous campaign in support of the Conciliation Bill, must be made widely known among the public. Members only can do this and it is only through them the public can buy tickets. Hence the great importance of members realising their responsibility. Mr. Ellis Griffith, M.P., leader of the Welsh party, has kindly consented to be one of the speakers. Tickets—Prices: Stalls, 2s. 6d.; arena, Blocks A and F, 2s. (These have now been sold out); Blocks B, C, D, and E, 1s.; balcony, first two rows, 1s., other rows, 6d.; upper orchestra, 6d.; boxes, £1 10s., £1 1s., and 12s. 6d., may be had of Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

### Crystal Palace Kiosk.

To-morrow (Saturday), thousands of Welshwomen will visit the Crystal Palace owing to the Welsh Choir's Concert, and it would prove a fitting opportunity for those members who have not already visited the W.S.P.U. Kiosk to do so, especially as the Festival of Empire is likely to close soon. Members can obtain special tickets for railway and admission from Miss Vibert, 62, High Street, Hampstead, N.W.

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The goods to be offered at the Sale comprise several parcels of Furs which from time to time during the last few months we bought very advantageously for cash, and now offer, in most cases, at half last year's prices.

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No. 176.—A fashionable Persian Lamb Coat, very large bright curl, lined with Black Satin. 25 inches long. This is one example chosen from a lot of 17 coats, no two of which are alike in style, and all marked at less than half the regular prices. The Price of No. 176 is £28, but it would be marked in the ordinary way at 18 Guineas.

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Three Baum Martin Stoles very smart in style. Usual Price 55 guineas. Sale Price 27 guineas.

A six-skin Russian Sable Stole, fur both sides. This would be sold in the ordinary way at 73 guineas, but is priced for the sale at 36 guineas.

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Sale Price 12 guineas.

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Sale Price 3½ guineas each.

Muffs to match, Sale Price 2½ guineas each.

10 Skunk Stoles, in various fashionable shapes. Usual Price 17 guineas. Sale Price 8½ guineas.

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## THE PERPLEXED HUSBAND.

There is no doubt whatever that Votes for Women is the burning question of the day, beside which all others pale in interest. The very fact that Mr. Sutro, one of our most popular playwrights, has chosen to weave his modern comedy of manners round the Woman question is proof positive, if any were needed, of the primary importance of the question. Even the most Anti of dramatists cannot get away from the all-absorbing topic. But the feeling with which I personally came away from his play, "The Perplexed Husband," was that the man has not yet arisen who can adequately treat the subject. Those men playwrights succeed who do not set out with the set purpose of writing a Suffrage play, but who simply write on present-day topics. Thus the "Butterfly on the Wheel" and "Passers-By," which did not profess to be Suffrage plays, but simply to deal with modern problems, resolved themselves into excellent presentments of the Suffrage question. On the other hand, the writers of the "Master of Mrs. Chilvers" and "The Perplexed Husband" boldly tackled the question itself, and not understanding it, have failed.

The underlying motif of "The Perplexed Husband" is the idea that Woman Suffrage means the destruction of household peace and happiness. Suffragists, of course, know quite well that this is radically wrong. The result of the enfranchisement of women will be an elevation of the home-life of the country, for there will be fewer loveless marriages, when women, being established in a sound, economic position, will no longer make a trade of one of the highest of human ideals. But in this play, the wife, who had hitherto been in a Doll's House, is represented as taking the unreasonable step of hurling defiance at her husband's head when he returns, unsuspecting of the change in her, due to her conversion by Dulcie Elstead and "The Master." The absurd way the dramatist makes her stand up in petulant fashion, instead of explaining quietly and convincingly what are her new ideas and feelings, must strike even the most biased Anti as forced.

The next criticism which a true Suffragist would raise is that in this play, as in "The Master of Mrs. Chilvers," the appalling mistake is made of putting forward the Suffrage movement as anti-man. The Suffragist, Dulcie Elstead, is completely feminist and anti-man. This betrays the most serious lack of comprehension of the real meaning of the movement, which all true supporters know to be an evolutionary one, for the advancement not of women alone, but of the whole race. John Stuart Mill showed that no race could rise above its women. If the nation is to progress, the women must rise. Thus when Dulcie Elstead proclaims herself to be "feminist, rebel and Suffragist," she is belying the whole movement.

Mr. Sutro's play delights with its scintillations of wit, such as the epigram put into the mouth of the "Perplexed Husband" of Ibsen's "Doll's House," that it is a bad play, and is therefore sure of a long run, but these witticisms do not cover grave faults of construction.

The first two acts go with a splendid "entrain," but the last part is positively boring, with its improbabilities and impossibilities. Thus the scene where Kalleia is entrusted by the employer after many queries which rouse our suspicions, into the hands of the Sybarite "Master," cannot fail to rouse our critical sense. The reflection natural to the Suffragette is that Kalleia unconsciously shows up the fallacy of the Anti-Suffragist women who so confidently trust their whole interests into the hands of "the dear kind men," when she affirms her implicit trust in Thomas Pelling, whose impulsive kiss is throwing her out of her employment, and in the "Master," who has already proved his want of stamina by deliberately forsaking the cause to which he has professed devotion. The dénouement at this point of Kalleia's departure must rouse the ire of even the most rabid "Anti" in its absurdity. The two irresponsible children, as they are called, go out into an unknown life with the Perplexed One's blessing. The most interesting part of the play is reached in the dramatic dialogue between Thomas Pelling and Dulcie Elstead, where it is more than hinted that brute force is still the ultima ratio of government, and although Mr. Sutro tries to smooth the way for the advocates of progress by putting into the husband's mouth words which show that he is beginning to have a glimmering of the reason of the women's agitation, the curtain rings down on the success of the modern Petruchio, whilst Suffragettes leave the theatre feeling more than ever the vital necessity of Votes for Women.

E. W. Davison.

## "DIANA OF DOBSON'S."

Miss Lena Ashwell is to be congratulated upon a very successful revival of "Diana of Dobson's" at the Coronet Theatre during the present week. All the parts are well filled, and full justice is done alike to the wit and pathos and common-sense of Miss Cicely Hamilton's delicious comedy.



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The Editors cannot hold themselves in any way responsible for the return of unused manuscripts, though they will endeavour as far as possible to return them when requested if stamps for postage are enclosed.

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By A Suffragette. Price 1s.

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### THE INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP.

A DEBATE will take place at the SMALL QUEEN'S HALL on Friday, September 29th, between Mrs. BILLINGTON GREGG and Miss GLADYS FORT (for the Anti-Suffrage League).

Tickets 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s., at 15, Adam Street, Strand, W.C.

IN THE STRAND LECTURE ROOM: A Series of Lectures on "The Policy of My Society," by Prominent Members of the Principal W.S. Societies. Ample opportunity will be given for discussion, and it is hoped these meetings will be well attended. Speakers' names will be announced next week.

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Mr. Lawrence's book places clearly and forcibly before the reader why women want the vote and what they have done to get it. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst's book deals specially with the history of the Militant Movement. Both are works of reference for those educated in the Suffrage Movement, and at the same time the very best text-books for the enquirer or recent convert.

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Mrs. PANKHURST, Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,  
Founder and Hon. Sec. Hon. Treasurer.  
Mrs. TUKE, Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,  
Joint Hon. Sec. Organising Sec.

"We demand the Vote on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men."

## VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1911.

### WHAT ABOUT MARRIED WOMEN?

The explicit reiteration on the part of the Prime Minister of his promise of full Parliamentary facilities for a Woman's Suffrage Bill in 1912, and his renewed declaration that this promise refers to the Conciliation Bill (which secured an overwhelming majority in the House of Commons last June) has inspired Suffragists with confidence of victory in the almost immediate future.

The Conciliation Bill, drafted by a Committee in the House of Commons in which all political parties are represented, has proved itself acceptable both to the House of Commons and to the people at large. It has proved itself invulnerable to direct attack. It cannot be defeated by open opposition. Anti-Suffragists have been driven to declare a policy of supporting widening amendments in the Committee stage of the Bill, with the express purpose of making the Bill unacceptable in its final form, and thus securing its defeat.

This policy they cannot hope to carry out unaided, for they constitute but a small minority in the House, but they hope to be able to join forces with a certain number of professing Suffragists who think or pretend to think that the present franchise laws are too limited to allow of sex equality, and must be widened by the same stroke of the pen that admits women within the pale of citizenship. It is this strange alliance of anti-Suffragists and ultra-Suffragists that constitutes the one remaining menace to the cause of women's political enfranchisement.

The line of attack was foreshadowed by Mr. Lloyd George when he met a deputation of Welsh Liberal women some months ago. Reference having been made to the Conciliation Bill, Mr. Lloyd George said: "I should vote for the Second Reading of a Bill of that kind, and should then vote for an amendment to extend it to married women." During the months that have intervened, Mr. Lloyd George has actively identified himself with the movement which advocates widening amendments, and has been seconded by certain officials in the Liberal Party. For instance, Mr. Masterman, when driven to declare his attitude on this question at the recent by-election at Bethnal Green, said, with a strange disregard of the actual terms of the Conciliation Bill, that he was "not in favour of giving propertied women the vote at the expense of the wives and mothers of the working people."

"Married women" are to form the barricade behind which the opponents of women's enfranchisement can fight against the political equality of women and men. It must be understood that the married women to whom Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Masterman refer do

not possess voting qualification under the present franchise laws. They are not "occupiers" in the technical sense of the word, because the rent of the house or tenement in which they live is paid, nominally, at all events, by the husband. The Conciliation Bill confers the Parliamentary vote on women who are heads of households, whether they are single, married, or widowed women. This is what the occupation franchise does for men. The majority of women who will be duly qualified to exercise a vote are working women, just as the majority of men voters at the present time belong to the working classes; but Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Masterman are so full of sympathy with working wives and mothers who are not occupiers that they cannot allow any Bill to be passed admitting women to the franchise which men enjoy, without creating a new franchise qualification altogether, for which there is at the present time no precedent or parallel in the laws of the country. To put it in another way: The ultra-Suffragists are so full of enthusiasm for a democratic franchise that since it is impossible to give the vote to six millions of women at once, they will refuse it to one million women who are fully qualified under the existing franchise laws, and are only debarred from its exercise by the disability of sex.

This sudden championship of married women on the part of politicians is a new and strange thing in political life. Under the municipal franchise for England no married woman possesses a vote except for the London County Council and even for that only provided she is a registered occupier. Yet neither Mr. Lloyd George nor Mr. Masterman nor any other politician have made any attempt to get this altered.

The same disqualification applies in the new Act carried by the Government in 1907, by which women municipal voters became eligible for election to the county councils; and an amendment put forward expressly to remove it was rejected by Mr. John Burns, speaking on behalf of the Government.

Suffragists have not forgotten the debate in the House of Commons on February 7, 1911, with regard to the case of Mrs. McCann, whose children had been kidnapped and taken away by her husband. On that occasion Mr. Birrell, on behalf of the Government, explained the position of the married mother under British law, and extorted from Sir Edward Carson (an anti-Suffragist) the exclamation, "If that is the law, the best thing to do with the time of the House between this and Easter is to alter such a monstrous state of affairs." Yet against the law that deprives married women of the rights of parenthood, no amendment has been advocated either in the House of Commons or on the platform of any political party.

Mr. Lloyd George's Insurance Bill, so far from conferring favours on working wives and mothers, tends rather to leave them out of the reckoning in a scheme of State insurance. The policy of ignoring their existence is justified by the author of the Bill on the plea that working wives and mothers are "supported by their husbands." Women have surely every reason to mistrust the sudden enthusiasm for married women on the part of politicians, whose actions so strongly belie their words.

In truth the status of the married women under the law as it has been made and is now maintained by men, is a matter which deeply concerns the womanhood of the whole nation. In many respects the legal position of the married woman at the present time is closely analogous to the legal position in the old days of the slave. The person of the wife is the property of her husband. The children of the marriage belong to the husband, who is the sole parent in the eyes of the law. The married mother has no direct legal claim for maintenance either for herself or the children. She has no legal right to any of the wealth which, in many cases, she helps to produce, and the husband can will away from her every penny of his substance and leave her penniless at his death. The very clothing that she wears is not her own, but "the livery of her husband." She is under a different law of marriage from that which rules her partner in the contract. In legal fiction she is not a "person" to enjoy human rights in common with men, but a "possession" to be guarded in the interests of her owner.

If women's opinion had been represented and the voice of women heard when the laws of the land were made, the legal status of married women would have been one of dignity and honour, not one of humiliation as it is to-day, and when women get the vote, these insulting laws with regard to married women will be swept away. For there is no hard line of cleavage between the unmarried woman, the wife, and the widow. The unmarried woman of to-day becomes the wife of to-morrow, the wife does not know when she may find herself a widow.

The legal interests of married women are far safer in the hands of their own sex than they have been or are in the hands of solely male legislators. The admission of duly qualified women to the Parliamentary register will sweep away for ever the political discrimination of sex, and it will be the turn of the newly enfranchised to approach their representatives, including the framers of such legislative proposals as the present Insurance Bill, with the vital and significant question, "What about married women?"

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.



## THE LATCHKEY VOTE AND THE CONCILIATION BILL.

By H. N. Brailsford, Hon. Sec. of the Conciliation Committee.

The Revising Barristers are now at work on the register of voters for 1912, and the results of their operations will be watched this year with peculiar interest. Late this summer, in the last days of July, the Court of Appeal gave one of those decisions which make our franchise law a by-word for its complications and contradictions. It is the so-called "latchkey voter" whose interests are affected, but no one can certainly predict how much disturbance has been created by this judgment until the register is actually compiled.

The Reform Bill of 1867 (extended to counties by the Reform Bill of 1884) conferred the vote upon all householders irrespective of the value of the dwellings which they occupy. It was moreover laid down that a man who was the inhabitant-occupier of any part of a dwelling-house might be qualified as a householder, provided the poor rate had been paid by him or for him.

Difficulties arose in interpreting the Acts where a man occupies a room or rooms as the sub-tenant of a landlord who resides on the premises. Up to the year 1905 tenants in this position could not be registered as householders. If they wished to obtain a vote they were obliged to make an annual claim as lodgers, and to prove that their room unfurnished was of the value of £10 yearly or 3s. 10d. weekly.

In 1905, however, a decision (*Kent v. Fittall*, No. 1) given in favour of some Devonport sub-tenants suddenly altered the whole practice in registration. It was laid down that a sub-tenant of a room or rooms in a dwelling-house could not be disqualified by the mere fact that his landlord resided in other rooms in the same house, provided he had full control of his rooms. Various rough tests were applied by the Revising Barristers to ascertain whether a tenant had full control of his rooms. Some asked whether he had a latchkey, and others have been known to inquire whether he was free to keep a dog. Hence the term "latchkey voter" which was popularly applied to these lodgers whomight be classed as householders.

This was the first of the famous *Kent v. Fittall* judgments. A whole series followed, which tended on the whole to limit the concession made in 1905. It was left entirely to the discretion of Revising Barristers to determine in each case whether a sub-tenant had full control of his rooms, and the presumption was always against a claimant—the onus of proof in other words rested on him.

The last of these judgments delivered late in July of this year undoubtedly restricts very seriously the concession made in 1905. It is still possible for a sub-tenant to rank as a householder even though his landlord resides on the premises. But the sub-tenant must be separately rated and assessed. In other words his name must figure in the rate-book as the occupier of the rooms which he inhabits.

There is no doubt that in some towns this year a considerable number of men will be struck off the register as householders in consequence of this decision. But two facts must be kept in mind. (1) In the first place, the disturbance need only be temporary. A sub-tenant who claims to be separately rated can always recover his right to a "latchkey vote." He may lose it this year, but he can recover it in time to vote in 1914, if not before, i.e., in readiness for the next General Election. (2) There are two large classes of tenants who occupy parts of houses, whose rights are quite unaffected by this decision: (a) If a house is wholly let out in tenements, each tenant of a room or set of rooms is entitled to a vote; (b) further, if a house is under the annual value of £10 (i.e., when the landlord may compound with the rating authority for its rates) the tenants are not affected by this decision. It will be noted that these two exceptions include vast numbers of the poorer voters. They include "model dwellings," and in most towns whole streets of old houses which have been broken up into separate little tenements or flats for the use of working-class tenants.

### The Effect on the Conciliation Bill.

No sooner was the latest *Kent v. Fittall* judgment given, than the opponents of the Conciliation Bill at once began to declare, as if by concert, that it had quite destroyed our case. These same critics used to declare that our Bill would enfranchise only women of property. Suddenly they reversed their attitude, and argued that although the Bill before this only would have enfranchised large numbers of poor women, these have meanwhile lost their chances of being reckoned as householders. To this new objection there is a complete answer.

(1) The Conciliation Bill, if it receives the Royal Assent early next year, will enable women to vote in 1913; if later in the year, it will take effect in 1914. But any sub-tenant who claims to be separately

rated, can secure her right to be placed on the register as a householder and might vote in 1914. So that even if we admit that many women may be affected by the latest *Kent v. Fittall* judgment, the effect will only be temporary, and could, at the worst, influence the register only in one year, 1913.

(2) The claim which we have made that, of the women who will be enfranchised by our Bill, at least 80 per cent. belong to the working classes, is quite unaffected by the new situation. The inquiry conducted by the I.L.P., which gave the percentage as 82, was made in fifty places in England and Wales on the basis of the municipal register in the year 1904, that is to say, before the rights of the latchkey voter were recognised in the first *Kent v. Fittall* judgment. If the register now goes back to something like the condition which existed in 1904, our percentage is still valid.

(3) In point of fact we believe that relatively few women ever did profit by the earlier "latchkey decisions." Party agents rarely take much trouble over municipal voters, which means that no effort was made to see that every woman who might have been enfranchised by the judgment of 1905 was in fact placed on the register. For this reason we anticipate that very few women will lose their municipal votes this year.

(4) The two canvasses held this year are unaffected by the decision. It does not apply to Scotland, and therefore it is still true that 89 per cent. of the women householders of Dundee belong to the working class. No women voters in Bangor and Carnarvon (we have ascertained) have been affected by this year's decision, and the percentage of 75 which was found to be the proportion of working-class women among the householders on the register in these residential and non-industrial towns is still valid.

(5) If the effect upon men-voters of this decision is at all so serious as the Liberal press anticipates, we may be sure that in one way or another (possibly in the Plural Voting Bill) the Government will take steps to alter the law, and define the rights of the "latchkey voter." In that case, women as well as men, when the Conciliation Bill has become law, will reap the benefit of the new definition.

We may sum up the position as it affects women thus: (1) The rights of great numbers of poor women who inhabit single rooms or sets of rooms in tenement houses are quite unaffected. (2) A woman latchkey voter who should lose her municipal vote this year, may recover it by insisting that she shall be separately assessed for poor rates. (3) The percentage of working-class women who will be enfranchised by the Conciliation Bill cannot at the worst be less than in 1904 before the creation of the "latchkey vote," when it was found to be 82 per cent. (4) When once the Bill is passed, women will profit by any subsequent improvement in the position of the poorer class of voters generally.

### THE OPPORTUNITY OF 1912.

In *The Englishwoman* for September, Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, M.P., says:—

This latter section, who are content for the present to concentrate their efforts on the passage of the Conciliation Bill, would seem to be adopting by far the wiser attitude. An attempt to kill two birds with one stone—votes for women and a democratic extension of the franchise—is doomed to failure. Both birds will be missed, and the stone may temporarily damage both causes. The eighty or so Unionist votes given for the Conciliation Bill will be given neither to a broader Bill nor to a broadening amendment. But an amendment of this character may easily be passed in Committee by the votes of avowed anti-suffragists with a view to the Bill being wrecked on its Third Reading. When, therefore, those who vote for such an amendment find themselves accompanied into the lobby by extreme anti-suffragists they will realise, too late, that they have helped to wreck the measure. As to the introduction of a broader Bill, it is very doubtful that any such Bill would even get a Second Reading. If this view is correct—and it is held by many who have had considerable Parliamentary experience—there is no need to waste time and words over speculations and discussions as to whether the Conciliation Bill is or is not democratic, whether it is biased in favour of propertied women, or what exact proportion of working women will be included. It is sufficient that, with all its defects, it has proved itself to be an effective weapon for breaking down the strong prejudice against women having the vote at all. A majority of 167 this session was not given on an academic discussion, but was recorded for the Second Reading of a live Bill when the prospect of time being given for the further stages was still open.

It is idle for anyone to suppose that this Government as a Government can undertake franchise reform which includes votes for women. If they could, there would of course be no question that a Government measure, having all the advantages of party pressure behind it, would be infinitely the best way of securing this reform; but there is a sharp and irreconcilable division of opinion in the Cabinet on this question. Every supporter of the cause consequently must make up his or her mind that it is only as a House of Commons measure on the initiative of a private Member that a Bill can be carried, difficult and unprecedented as the course may be. It may be added, also, that it is only with Unionist support that the first obstacle can be overcome.

## THE WOMEN OF INDIA AND MODERN THOUGHT.

By Lady Muir Mackenzie.

Yet I perceive on the height,  
Eastwards, not now very far,  
A song too loud for the lark,  
A light too strong for a star.

The last fifty years have brought a great awakening to the women of India. When Queen Victoria came to the throne there was practically not a single institution in India which occupied itself with female education. To-day an ever-increasing number of girls seek and obtain it. Their aspirations reach beyond mere book-learning. They are beginning to think of the vast problems which beset mankind, and to interest themselves in social service. They have come to believe that organised and united effort has a real power to avert evil, and to substitute righteous things in its place.

The movement which is slowly freeing women from the bonds of a world-old servitude, and aiding to "clear away the parasitic forms that seem to keep her up but drag her down," has touched the East as well as the West. India's daughters are to-day considering the ways of Western people. I have found them ready to understand that our women seek political recognition, because they yearn for power to champion the cause of all those who are afflicted and distressed, especially women and children.

That beautiful group of Indian women would not have appeared in the great Suffrage Procession if they had not been convinced that they countenanced, and encouraged, a righteous cause.

During the seven years I spent in India, I witnessed a great upspringing of new life amongst the women. A number of movements were set on foot which showed that Indian women, conservative though they are, are influenced by Western ideals. The founding of the Seva Sadan Sisterhood in Bombay seemed to me especially significant. In this Sisterhood, Hindu, Parsee and Moslem women work together. Thus to see women of conflicting creeds and opinions united for the first time in philanthropic work is a most remarkable development. Some of the sisters visit in the hospitals and slums of Bombay; others teach or nurse the sick in the institute attached to the Sisterhood. One charming Mohammedan woman of my acquaintance is obliged to keep purdah, but she helps the Sisterhood by teaching needlework to destitute children in her own home.

How beautiful it would be to see women giving up purdah because of their intense desire to help a suffering world. The seclusion of purdah is, alas, apt to be synonymous with a self-centred life, careless, because ignorant of the needs of the poor and unhappy.

In Bombay, however, the majority of high caste Hindu women are not in purdah. For the most part they lead austere religious lives, but they have only just begun to interest themselves in the great questions which vex the world. They have in some degree recognised the crying needs of the forty-five million Pariah or Out Caste people who live in their midst, but are to them untouchable and unclean. The Pariah child finds it difficult to obtain education, for the schools attended by caste children are unwilling to receive him. To-day, however, some few educated Hindus have opened schools for these unfortunates, in imitation of the Christian missionaries.

Another sufferer under the Hindu system—the child widow—has of late found protection amongst the educated women of her own country.

Enough has been said to show that modern thought is influencing the outlook of Indian women. Their capacity is undoubted, they readily assimilate Western learning, and take university degrees in medicine and literature. Their courage is truly touching, and if they desire education no difficulties daunt them. There were, up to the time of my departure, no women's colleges in India, but at one of the leading colleges I have seen one girl studying in a class of a hundred young men.

Educated women are in a very small minority, and India needs above all things that the mothers of the race should be educated. For instance, men are continually discussing the need of social and sanitary reforms, but without the active co-operation of women these reforms will remain a sounding theory, an empty aspiration. When the women are educated enough to put the theory into practice in their daily lives, then there will be a much-needed modification of existing conditions.

I trust that gradually Indian women will cease to be content with restricted, fettered lives; that enlightenment will spread, and that in the sunshine of twentieth century knowledge and education, they may actively assist the upward evolution of their country.

On application to . . .

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## WOMEN AND IDEALISM.

By Dr. Ethel Smyth.

A letter contributed to "The Nation" in reply to one in a previous issue from Mr. Ashbee.

I read with keen sympathy and thankful-ness the plea of your correspondent, Mr. Ashbee, that in a reconstructed House of Lords, framed to represent "the permanent mind of the nation," some corner may be found for that idealism which has vanished from English politics, but without which peoples, like individuals, are as the beasts that perish. Simultaneously, a paragraph in a recent anti-suffrage article flashed across my mind. In it the writer, after bitterly complaining that some Adult Suffrage League had been unable to scrape together a bare thousand pounds, remarks that one single Woman Suffrage Society had easily raised £100,000, and adduces this as proof that the cause of "Votes for Women" is run by "a small and wealthy clique." The Times not long ago advanced a similar theory; thereupon the treasurer of the society in question forwarded the balance-sheet of the last two years, showing that the main-spring of its income is a constant influx of the shillings and sixpences of piteously un-wealthy people, and received a courteous apology from the editor in reply.

The connection, in my mind, between the letter in *The Nation* and that other article is this: Woman Suffrage is, in its essence, the cry of idealism buried alive under that "rubbish of centuries" to which your correspondent refers, but indestructible. It is for this reason that women, quicker than men to perceive spiritual issues, are strong to fight their battle to a finish; it is for this reason that every soul who once understands, even dimly, what is at stake, gives to this cause as he or she never gave before. The small subscriptions that wrung an apologetic letter from a sceptical journalist are as little as-tonishing as the raising of £9,000 in ten

why I say, without pointing out whence the oppositional spirit often derives, that Woman Suffrage not only stands for idealism, but the very fact of its existence as a Cause has already given back to us a treasure we were in danger of losing; that is, belief in the power of a great idea.

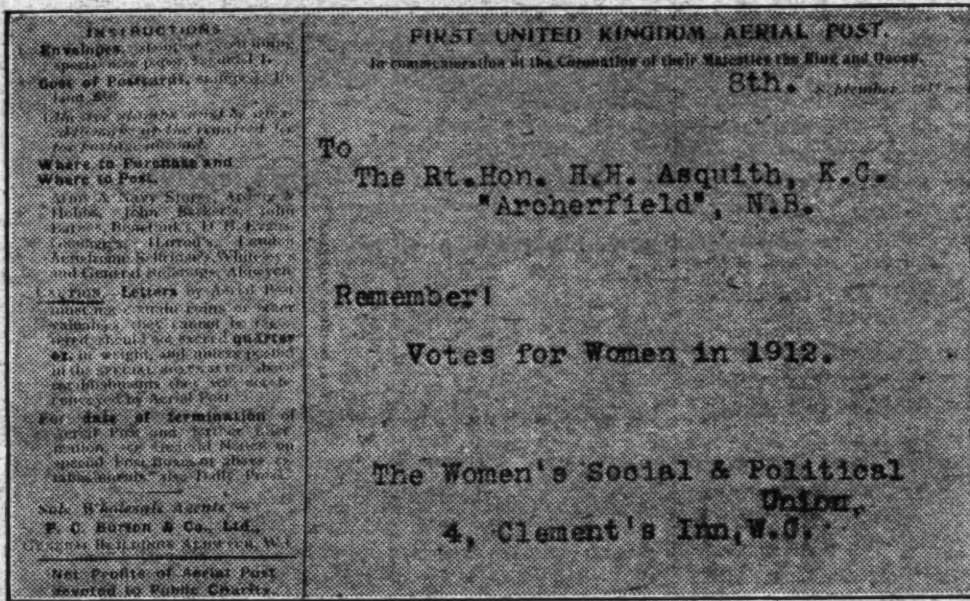
## MRS. PANKHURST'S SCOT-TISH TOUR.

Mrs. Pankhurst's Highland tour is over. Everywhere the women have been true to their traditions—the traditions that are full of the heroic response of women to the call of their country. The Scottish woman of to-day is not one whit behind her ancestors, and is loyally answering to the call of the woman's movement. Miss Una Dugdale writes:—

The tour is over, and we must congratulate ourselves on having made many splendid adherents to the cause in the North.

Last Monday, Mrs. Pankhurst stayed at Wemyss Castle as the guest of Lady Eva Wemyss. There was a grand meeting in the evening, over which Lady Eva Wemyss pre-sided, and a number of interesting questions were asked. Next day we motored to Aber-lady, and Mrs. Pankhurst spoke at Luffness (by kind permission of Miss Dodge). Muriel Lady de la Warr and Lady Betty Balfour worked indefatigably to make this meeting the greatest success. Numbers of people came over from North Berwick, Gullane and Haddington, and although Mrs. Asquith was opening a bazaar in the district the same afternoon, popular interest was centred on our meeting, which was full to over-

## MR. ASQUITH'S AERIAL LETTER FROM THE W.S.P.U.



(Photo: Daily Mirror.)

Last week we gave an illustration of the front of the letter sent by the W.S.P.U. to the Prime Minister by Air-post. This week we give a photograph of the reverse side, showing the message itself.

minutes at an Albert Hall meeting last year—a feat unthinkable, of course, but for the generosity of the rich.

Do you remember what that meeting was? A declaration of war, a promise implied, if not defined, and most nobly redeemed some days later, that a few women, standing for us all, were again prepared to face prison, suffering, and possible death (which, indeed, resulted in two cases), for the sake of that particular form of idealism called "Votes for Women," which, as surely as one sex differs from the other, will let loose a new fashioning and guiding force in the world.

I wonder if Mr. Ashbee is a Suffragist: if not, I can fancy him and others who realise that political immobility is undermining our national health, and who passionately desire better things, staring in scornful surprise at what will seem to them a preposterous claim. Yet it is based on a truth as old as the hills. Everyone can guess what family life would be without the direct influence of women, and in these days the State is a large family. Can men believe that, when women are represented, the education of the young, the conditions of female labour, and its intimate connection with prostitution, the blatant unscrupulousness of the political conscience, the calm cynicism of the party system, will remain unaffected? To take this latter point alone, of late much under discussion: do not men foresee that women will always care more for principle than party, for the character and record of a representative rather than his qualification as a pawn on the party chessboard? Is it possible to doubt that matters too "difficult," too "delicate," too "complicated," too "untimely," for the men who should be the guardians of morality—I mean the Church—to tackle, things such as the white slave traffic, for instance, will be dealt with and swept off the face of the land by women, as soon as the weapon is in their hands?

If anyone who fancies this is a prejudiced and feminine point of view cares to learn what men who count think about it all (and also, incidentally, to read some of the finest pages of English writing our time, I think, has produced), let him send 1d. to the Women's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, and ask for "My Faith in Woman Suffrage," by John Macfield. He will then understand

flowing. Amongst those present were the Countess of Wemyss and March, Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Mrs. Tennant, Mrs. Laidley, and Mrs. Dobbs, and a large collection was taken.

Our arrival at Kendal created quite a little excitement. We drove up to the hall door to deposit our flags and literature, and were immediately surrounded by interested people. A string of flags was stretched right across the street opposite the hall to wave as a welcome, and the hall itself was gorgeous with banners and flags. Mr. Roger Strickland presided at the meeting, which drew crowds in a queue to the doors long before they were opened. A number of "Antis" put questions, and Mrs. Pankhurst received a wonderful ovation at the close of the meeting. Many grateful thanks to the Misses Wilson, of High Park, for the splendid work they did in organising this meeting, and also to Mrs. Wilson for her kind hospitality.

"Throughout her speech of fifty minutes duration, full of sparkling humour, calm impressive utterance and telling facts," says the *Kendal Mercury and Times*. "Mrs. Pankhurst was listened to with rapt attention."

## WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Central Office: 10, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane, W.C. (Third Floor left). Hours 10 to 5, or by appointment with The Secretary, Mrs. Kington Parkes. Tel. 3385 City.

Owing to her refusal to pay taxes until women are enfranchised, some of Mrs. Sky's silver was seized and sold by auction at South-east last Saturday. Mrs. Kington Parkes, Hon. Sec. of the Women's Tax Resistance League, made a short speech before the sale. All present applauded Mrs. Sky's action. A procession, headed by Mrs. Osborn Sanderson and Mrs. Kington Parkes, proceeded to the Technical Schools, where a most successful open-air meeting was held. A resolution in support of the policy of tax resistance was carried by a large majority, and copies were sent to Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Kirkwood, the M.P. for South-East Essex. For the first time in Glasgow a woman has had her goods sold for the non-payment of Imperial taxes. Two pictures, belonging to Miss Janet Legate Buntin, Hon. Treas. of the Glasgow branch of the Women's Freedom League, were sold at public auction on the 13th inst. Mrs. How Martyn, head of the political and militant department of the above League, Miss Munro and Mrs. Clarendon Hyde explained to a large audience at a meeting the significance of the action. Miss Buntin was arrested some time ago for asserting the subject's ancient right under the still unrevoked Bill of Rights to petition the King, and was defended in the Police Court by Mr. Tim Healy, K.C., M.P.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR AND FÊTE.

December 4 to 9.

I have just been looking at some coloured sketches of quaint ladies in eighteenth-century costumes. One of them, I noticed, had a basket of oranges on her arm; others were just tripping along in their sandals, big bunchy petticoats, and sweet little mob caps, and looking extremely fascinating, as if, indeed, they had just stepped out of an old English village. And this is just where they have come from, or, at any rate, it is where they are going. For the village itself does not yet exist! But the ladies do, and in a few weeks' time a village market hall will be built for them; various trade or guild signs will be hung out over their shop doors, and the ladies with mob caps and panniers, some with wares to sell, and others with quaint games and toys, will be ready to contribute to "the fun of the fair." Great preparations, I understand, are going forward for this charming Christmas Festival, and although there is not a very long time between this and December 4, there is time enough for the gentle reader to put in a claim for a share in these festivities. Indeed, there is plenty of room for helpers. For instance, metal workers are wanted to make brackets for the signs; needlewomen are wanted to make some of the quaint costumes. Some of the wearers of the costumes will doubtless undertake the work of making them themselves, but there is to be established a sewing committee which will be hard at work from now onwards, making to measurement for those who have not time to make their own costumes. As every reader of VOTES FOR WOMEN knows, all this refers to the Christmas Fair and Fête in the Portman Rooms from December 4 to December 9, and everyone who wants to get work is asked to write at once to Miss Olive Smith 4, Clements Inn, W.C., on all these various points. Next week we hope to give sketches of a specimen shop sign, giving correct measurements, of the stalls, and of some of the costumes. Patterns of these can be supplied to stall holders who are able to make their own dresses.

S. O.

## Reports from Organisers.

Mrs. Mackworth, Llansear, Caerleon, Monmouthshire, is the general secretary for the Welsh Stall. All communications should be addressed to her. Goods provided for the stall may be of any sort, but should be distinctively Welsh, as for instance, Welsh pottery, Welsh dressed dolls, embroideries of Welsh mottoes or emblems, or petticoats made out of Welsh flannel. Sewing meetings will be held at the Newport office every Monday afternoon, beginning on September 25, and it is hoped that other local Unions will follow Newport's example. They are also visiting all their sympathisers and asking them to contribute at least one article each, and they are opening a shilling fund with which to buy Welsh "Vale of Clydd" toys. The Sweet Stall is being undertaken for the first three days by Miss Muriel Thompson and Miss Leggett. The last three days the Redhill Local Union are responsible for it.

Mrs. Penn Gaskell, 215, High Road, Kilburn, N.W., makes an appeal to members and friends to help in providing funds for the Leadless Glaze Stall. Contributions in money or articles that can be sold or exchanged will be gladly received. The local Committee wish to remind all friends that the spread of the sale of Leadless Glaze is in itself helping forward a much needed humane reform.

Miss Worstfold, 45, Bouverie Road West, Folkestone, will be very glad of any number of bundles of lavender for making into sachets. Will friends still in the country please respond lavishly to this appeal? A Jumble Sale will probably be held shortly in Folkestone to raise more funds for purchasing. This column should be watched for further information. Gratefully acknowledged (additional contributions to the Shilling Fund): Mrs. Farnworth, 2s. 6d.; Miss Bomford, 1s.

Miss H. Gargett, 4, St. Leonard Road, Palmer's Green, will be glad if members and friends will let her know which evening in the week will suit them best for a work party. A sixpenny fund has been opened towards the expenses, and she reminds friends that odd sixpences can be given any time from now till the date of the fête. All bags must be made of a useful size, as no small fancy bags must be on the parcel stall. Any article will be welcome, as it can be exchanged or sold.

The Redhill Branch is undertaking the

management of the Sweet Stall on December 7, 8 and 9, and Mrs. Cather, Red Cottage, Clavendish Road, will be very grateful for contributions in money or sweets. Any kind friends who think of sending sweets are asked to send in their promises as soon as possible as it is important to know what to expect.

Letchworth weekly work parties have now commenced. Seven promises have been received for the afternoons. A Material Fund has been opened; materials, money, and original suggestions will be welcomed by the committee. All communications should be addressed to Miss Porter, "Redcroft," Baldock Road, Letchworth.

The Streatham Union are responsible for the Toy Stall, and four prizes are offered for topical rhymes, limericks, and other verses, to be used for the compilation of a Suffrage A.B.C. Picture Book. Each prize will consist of a complete illustrated copy of the picture book, and will be awarded for (1) The most original rhyme, limerick, or other verse; (2) The best verse on one of the more difficult letters, such as I, O, U, X, Y, Z; (3) The verse containing the largest proportion of words beginning with the initial letter, and (4) The best all-round verse. The Competition will be closed on Friday, Oct. 13. Rhymes must be sent addressed to the Secretary, A.B.C. Competition, 37, Drewstead Road, Streatham, together with an entrance fee of 6d. for each entry. It is hoped that members will make arrangements to attend as regularly as possible one or more of the work parties (see programme); these will in future be held weekly. Gratefully acknowledged towards expenses: Mrs. Murrell £2 2s., Miss Eleanor Green 2s. 6d., Mrs. Clough 1s. Those who cannot help by making toys, etc., are asked to communicate with Miss Leonora Tyson, 37, Drewstead Road, Streatham, who will tell them of other articles which are needed for exchange.

Mrs. D. J. Cocksedge, 12, Foxbourne Road, Balham, reports that at last Friday's meeting it was agreed that Balham Union should join with Streatham in stocking the Toy Stall. Mrs. Yorke very kindly arranged to have the first work party at No. 2, Huron Road, on Wednesday, September 20, from 3 to 6 p.m. Gratefully acknowledged for "shilling fund": Miss Tyson, 1s.; Miss Mills, 1s.; Mrs. Yorke, 1s.; Mrs. Robb, 1s.

A sewing party will be held at Wimbledon Shop every Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 p.m., when it is hoped members and their friends will attend and help to make children's garments for the Wimbledon Stall. Time is short, and many hands are needed to make the stall a great success. Tea will be served free. Members who are not able to attend these sewing parties can have work to do at home. All communications should be addressed to Miss A. O. Nuthall, Holly Lodge, Kingston-on-Thames.

Miss Grace Roe, 19, Silent Street, Ipswich, would be glad if all offers of goods for the Farm Produce Stall be sent to her during the absence of Mrs. Marshall, who is on holiday.

The secretary of the Underclothing and Haberdashery Stall, 6, Carlton Street, Nottingham, would be glad of promises as follows: (1) Materials for making up (N.B. The underclothing should be for adults only); (2) Money to buy materials; (3) Up-to-date ideas and patterns of garments; (4) Services of good sewers; (5) Ready-made and woven garments, also hosiery; (6) Orders for garments; (7) Haberdashery (buttons, hooks and eyes, tapes, mending-wool, needles, shoe-laces, etc., etc.). A speciality will be made of nightgowns and pyjamas for men and women.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight members are invited to send contributions towards buying "leadless glaze" china for the local stall. The fund must close about the middle of November. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Carey, £1; Mrs. Murray, £1; Miss J. De B. Cowan £1. Contributions and all communications should be sent to Miss Marsh, 9, Pelham Road, Portsmouth.

Members are reminded that Sussex is responsible for the lace, embroidery and art metalwork stall, and Miss Cobb, 8, North Street Quadrant, Brighton, will be glad to hear what each one is prepared to do to make this a great success. She will be particularly grateful for parcels of lace or muslin embroidery, old or new, also for bent ironwork, handwrought silver, copper, etc., and for money gifts as well. Other articles which can be exchanged will also be welcome.

No article should be sold from any stall except as clear profit to the funds of the Union, and no agreement with manufacturers or others as to percentage can under any circumstances be allowed.

## A STRONG PULL.

"It may interest you to know," writes Miss Grace Roe, organiser of Ipswich, "that a newagent in Yarmouth has recently increased his sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN from six to fifty copies weekly." This is but one instance of the way in which the circulation increases. Members in other parts of the country are earnestly urged to emulate this example and to get new subscribers to order their copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN through a local newagent. Besides increasing the circulation, it keeps the paper before the public. A strong united individual effort now, when this thousand will be completed.

Already acknowledged ... 668	Mrs. Helen Matland .....	1	Members who have obtained new
Mrs. John Brindley .....	Mrs. McNeill .....	1	readers who get the paper from
Mrs. Dyer .....	Mrs. Mackworth .....	1	local newagents ...
Mrs. E. Yalton .....	J. G. Phillimore .....	1	Already acknowledged ... 199
Nurse M. Fraser .....	Miss E. R. Pringle .....	1	Miss D. Gregory .....
Miss M. George .....	Miss A. K. Robertson .....	4	Miss E. Fallon .....
Mrs. Hippelley .....	Miss K. Snow .....	1	Miss B. C. Whitton .....
Miss A. Haslett .....	Miss C. M. Shaw .....	4	Miss E. Midgley .....
Mrs. Hansford .....	Miss P. Sanborn .....	1	Mrs. M. Daubeny Stratford .....
Miss Kay .....	Miss I. C. Tompkins .....	2	Miss L. Ashban .....
Lady O. Lytton .....	Miss A. H. Wilson .....	2	Miss Gibbs .....
Miss E. O. Mott .....	Miss M. Wray .....	2	Mrs. R. Kimmich .....
Mrs. M. Marks .....			



### OUR POST BOX.

#### WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN FRANKFORT

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors.—A six days' sojourn in Frankfort-on-Main would surely afford an opportunity of finding out how German Suffragists manage their affairs. But the difficulty was to find the Suffragists. Private inquiries only elicited the grave information that no one took any interest in the question, and I began to think that a correspondent of an English paper, who stated that German women were too sensible and "basic" (whatever that may mean) to want the vote must be right! Mme. M. Kramers, of Rotterdam, however, came to the rescue, and I had the privilege of introduction to two members of the *Frankfurter Verein für Frauenstimmrecht*, one of them an *Oberlehrerin*. I gathered that the Suffrage movement is "hand and glove" with all efforts to improve social and legal conditions. Accordingly all women's societies in Frankfort which aim at the betterment of the race form one corporation called the "*Verband Frankfurter Frauenvereine*," and announce their doings in a joint weekly brochure. The Woman Suffrage Society is one of these. Its special programme is: To obtain the direct vote by ballot for every adult man and woman. This means working, not merely for equality in the franchise, but for a change in the Prussian franchise qualification, which is (for men) of three classes, according to the amount of property held. The Frankfort Society, being a branch of the German Union for Woman Suffrage, is non-party, and supports trustworthy candidates of any political division. Before the last election to the Reichstag every candidate in Hesse Nassau (where numerous local suffrage groups have sprung from the Frankfort parent society) was approached and questioned by letter. Candidates who gave an uncertain reply were interviewed, and those who seemed "sound" obtained the women's support in the canvass. Of the five parties to be dealt with, one, the "Social Democratic," professes Woman's Suffrage as an article of its political creed. Time alone will show whether if all Prussian men obtained the vote, they will be more, or less, inclined to give it to all Prussian women! The National Party of Free Thought claims to be largely in favour though not pledged. The "Centre" (Catholic) party comes next, being decidedly in favour. At present the "Centre" holds the balance of parties and gives the casting vote. The Conservative Party has lately been growing in sweet reasonableness, and is educating its women to take their share in political life. (The Primrose League over again!) I was glad to hear that all parties flocked to the women just before an election, and told them how valuable they were and how necessary. It seemed familiar and just like home. I must not forget the "Liberals." They are not pledged to Woman Suffrage, but many of them profess it. It was satisfactory to hear that Dr. Rudolph Oefler, the woman's candidate at the last election, has never abated an iota of his promises. The Frankfort Suffrage Society has four hundred members, and it is estimated that there should be thousands if all those who "say they believe in it" would join. Since the admission of women to University studies, to degrees, and to professions, even strict anti-suffragists have changed their views, and acknowledge that as there is no sex in intellect there should be none in citizenship. The difference within the last few years is thorough-going. It consists of a change of "atmosphere" or point of view, which can be felt though not easily described. The women of Prussia are "throwing wide their windows to the sun." Long accustomed to bear the burden of charitable work, they now begin to see, especially since they have been granted permission to attend political meetings, that they ought to be counted as members of the State. More than this, a new generation of men is rising who respect women deeply, who are grateful to them for their services to the race, and who believe that those who work so hard for "Küche, Kirche und Kinder," should at least be recognised as persons.

VOTES FOR WOMEN will, this winter, be on the table of the Frankfort Women's Club and Frankfort Suffragists will welcome English speakers who bring them news from our quarter. I must not forget to say that I read "How the Vote was Won" to two small parties of British women in Frankfort. Each time the reading was followed by a discussion, and one lady, who teaches English in Vienna, took a copy with a view to having the play performed there in English.—Yours, etc., K. R.

#### WHITE SLAVES.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—I am a subscriber to the funds of the "National Vigilance Association," because I think that those who are able to do so should support a society which is endeavouring to cope with this terrible evil. At the same time private philanthropy should not be allowed to take the

place of public duty, and in order to arouse the public conscience to a proper sense of its duty in this respect women must acquire the power and influence of the vote. I see by *The Vigilance Record* that a Bill dealing with prostitution has been before Parliament ever since 1909, but it has not yet been permitted a second reading. The reason given is that the time is required for other business. Owing to the glaring inadequacy of existing legislation hundreds, if not thousands, of perfectly innocent girls are being deceived to their ruin every year, yet the Government refuses to give the necessary time for the passing of a measure which would enable the police to afford them greater protection, and so rob these human vultures of their prey. And there are those who maintain that our grievances are purely imaginary; that a Parliament elected by men may be trusted to safeguard the interests of voteless women.—Yours, etc., A. M. V.

#### "AN ANTI-SUFFRAGE TALK."

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors.—I do hope you will publish Dr. Marie Jenny's "Anti-Suffrage Talk" in leaflet form, to be distributed broadcast throughout the country. It is a long time since I read anything so convincing on the subject. The Anti-Suffragists cannot do better than adopt it for their propaganda! Truly it is good to read the other side of the question. Please think seriously about republishing the address. I have come across about all the "arguments" Dr. Jenny uses so brilliantly. Anything further by her will be welcome.—Yours, etc.,

DOROTHY BIRKS WARD.

Woodhouse, Sheffield.

[Our readers will be glad to know that the leaflet is already in the press, and will be ready next week.—Ed. VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

#### AT THE CINEMATOGRAH THEATRES.

Our readers will be glad to know that the Kentish Town Cinema Company, Ltd., 1A, Gaisford Street, N.W., propose showing Miss Bensusan's play, "True Womanhood," from October 2-6 inclusive. The theatre is five minutes' walk from Kentish Town Station, in a turning out of Kentish Town Road. It is hoped all interested will make an effort to be present.

#### THE MARCH OF THE WOMEN FOR SCHOOLS.

An edition of the "March of the Women" for women's voices in three parts, forming a complete harmony with or without accompaniment, specially meant for women's choral unions, and for use in girls' schools, has just been issued, price 3d. Also two vocal cards, each 1d.; one with the melody, the other with the parts of second soprano and alto (including tonic sol fa notation). The teacher would require one vocal score (as above) and cards for the chorus; to be had of the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C. It may interest readers to know that the March has been translated into German and is to be sung, in the above form, by a woman's chorus at the general meeting of the North German Suffrage Societies at Hamburg on October 4.

#### SPEAKERS' CLASS.

Hon. Elocution Mistress—Miss Rosa Leo, 43, Ashworth Mansions, Elgin Avenue, W.

Hon. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Now that holidays are over everyone will be quite ready to take up their share of hard work again, and in order to prepare for a busy autumn campaign, all who possibly can should attend the speakers' classes to train useful speakers. The public classes will be resumed at Clements Inn on Friday, October 6, at 7.45 p.m., and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance. Miss Leo's private classes will take place at 41, Norfolk Square, W., by kind permission of Mrs. Ayrton, every Tuesday at 7.45 p.m., commencing October 3, and every Saturday at 4 p.m. Will all who intend to join these private classes please write to Miss Rosa Leo at above address, and enclose a stamped and addressed envelope for reply? All communications with regard to the public classes should be addressed to Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn.

#### RULES.

1. Members of the W.S.P.U. only are eligible.
2. The Class is held at 4, Clements Inn, Room 72, every Friday, at 7.45 p.m. sharp.
3. Entrance fee, 3d. weekly, proceeds to be used for the purchase of educational literature.
4. The Library books are only to be kept one week, and must be returned or sent by post before the next class.
5. Members are limited to ten classes, and it must be clearly understood that no one shall be admitted to these classes except intending speakers.

### CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

"He who doeth well in fellowship, and because of fellowship, shall not fail . . . in days hereafter shall he and his work yet be alive, and men be helped by them to strive again and yet again."—William Morris.

W.S.P.U. General Offices: 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

An important Secretaries' meeting will be held at 4, Clements Inn, W.C., on Monday next, September 25, at 8 p.m., when a full attendance is requested. Treasurers.—The Treasurers' meeting has been unavoidably postponed until October 5.

#### BALHAM & TOOTING.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Cockedge, 12, Foxbourne Road. Members are asked to read Christmas Fair and Fete for an account of local plans. Now that the autumn work has begun more paper-sellers are urgently needed. Will members volunteer a definite time weekly?

#### CAMBERWELL AND DULWICH.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. J. D. Westbrook, 25, Calton Road, Dulwich Village, S.E.

Very good meetings were held on Thursday and Sunday when Mrs. Drummond and Miss Hicks addressed large and interested audiences. Next Sunday Miss Naylor will speak on Peckham Rye at 3.15 p.m.

#### CROYDON.

Office—2, Station Buildings, West Croydon. Tel. 960 Croydon (Nat.). Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Cameron-Swan and Miss Leslie Hall.

Members are undertaking a canvass of women rate-payers. This can only be carried out by the co-operation of all members. Some have already begun; will those who have not please call at the office for instructions and special circular letter. Mrs. Russell is to be congratulated on the success of the open-air meetings in Purley. A paper-seller is still wanted for Wednesday mornings. Gratefully acknowledged for Dutch Market, Miss J. F. Green a very original hot-water cory; Miss C. Green a baby jacket, and Miss Rowland, Miss Shorter, and Mrs. Farrier for fancy work. Tickets for the Market can be obtained at the office. Albert Hall tickets for November 16 are also on sale. Gratefully acknowledged:—Miss L. Withall, 10s. Miss Slay, 1s. Will those members who are still owed money for expenses on their Pageant Costumes please call at office for their respective amounts.

#### EALING.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Finlay, 35, Warwick Road. Mrs. Fraser Forbes, 72, Argyle Road.

A meeting of members and friends was held at 72, Argyle Road last Tuesday to discuss ways and means for the Christmas Fete. Thanks to Mrs. Challis, Miss Whitley and Miss S. A. Turle for donations. All who were not present are requested to help, and also to collect jumbles from their friends for the sale in

October. If they will send word to Mrs. Finlay at above address she will arrange for their being collected. Contributions in money, articles, or materials will also be gratefully received for the Christmas Fete by the joint secretaries. The popular Sunday meetings on the Common terminate next Sunday. Last Sunday Miss Guthrie was the speaker, and Mr. J. Y. Kennedy was in the chair. Papers and pamphlets were all sold out.

#### FULHAM AND PUTNEY.

Shop—208, Fulham Road.

Hon. Secs.—Miss L. Cutten and Mrs. Roberts.

Members are reminded that the Jumble Sale takes place on Saturday, October 7. The most convenient times for receipt of parcels at the shop are Wednesday and Friday mornings and any evening in the week. Many thanks to Mrs. Shellshar for her most welcome gift of 25 lbs. of home-made plum jam, now on sale at the shop.

#### GREENWICH, DEPTFORD & WOOLWICH.

Hon. Sec.—Miss R. M. Billingham, 7, Oakcroft Road, Blackheath, S.E.

Tickets for Miss Parkhurst's Woolwich Town Hall meeting, on October 17, will shortly be on sale. Prices, 1s., 6d. and 3d. Will all those interested offer their services for selling tickets, advertising the meeting, and helping with correspondence. Friends are reminded of the Christmas stall undertaken by this Union. Promises of contributions should be obtained as soon as possible. Jumble parcels will be welcome.

#### HACKNEY.

Office—75, Lower Clapton Road.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. F. W. Jones, 28, Pembury Road.

There was a good muster of members at Friday's meeting, and many plans were discussed. It was decided to start a sewing-class under the management of Mrs. Holmes, the first meeting to take place at 97, Upper Clapton Road, on Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 6 to 9. It is hoped that all members and friends in the neighbourhood will attend the At Home to-morrow, Saturday (see programme). Jumble parcels are needed.

#### HAMPSTEAD.

Shop and Office—178, Finchley Road.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Hicks and Miss C. Collier.

Now that members are returning from their holidays, it is hoped that they will return to paper-selling with fresh energy. Friends are reminded of the whist drive to be held (by invitation of Mrs. Hicks) at 33, Downside Crescent, on Friday, September 29. Tickets (2s. 6d. each) to be obtained at the shop; proceeds to go to the "materials" fund for the Christmas Fair. The Jumble Sale has been fixed for Saturday, October 21; all are asked to keep the date free, as many helpers will be wanted. Gratefully acknowledged for General Fund: Mrs. Rowat, 6s.; Mrs. L. Edwards, 12s.; Miss A. Edwards, 5s.; Miss Motherole, 5s.; Mrs. J. Galich, 5s. 6d.; Mrs. Levy, 6s.; Miss Levy, 6s.; Miss M. D. Thompson, 5s. 6d.

### LONDON MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

September.				
Friday, 22	.....	Croydon, Katherine Street	Miss Hardy, Miss Leslie Hall	8 p.m.
"	"	Kilburn, Manor Park Road	Mrs. Penn Gaskell, Miss Jacobs	7 p.m.
"	"	New Barnet, Railway Arch	Miss Hopkins	8 p.m.
"	"	Stratford, The Grove	Miss Lennox	8 p.m.
"	"	Streatham, 37, Drewstead Road	Working Party	3 to 6 p.m.
"	"	Sydenham, High Street	Miss Richard, Miss Downing	8 p.m.
Saturday, 23	.....	Balham, 12, Foxbourne Road	Working Party	3 to 6 p.m.
"	"	Hackney, 39, Pembury Road	Mrs. Hicks	3 to 7 p.m.
"	"	Ilford, Balfour Road	Miss Haslam	8 p.m.
"	"	Islington, Jones Bros., Holloway		
"	"	Wimbledon Broadway	Miss C. Maguire	8 p.m.
Sunday, 24	.....	Battersea Park	Mr. Bowden Smith, Chair: Mrs. Dacre-Fox	7 p.m.
"	"	Baling Common	Miss Jessie Kenny	3 p.m.
"	"	Catford, Tram Terminus	Mrs. Penn Gaskell, Chair: Mr. H. L. Jackson	6 p.m.
"	"	Clapham Common	Miss Myers, Chair: Mrs. Bouvier	6.30 p.m.
"	"	Hampstead Heath		3 p.m.
"	"	Hyde Park	Victor Duval, Esq., Hugh A. Franklyn, Esq., A. J. Abbey, Esq.	11.30 a.m.
"	"	Peckham Rye	Miss Naylor	3.30 p.m.
"	"	Streatham Common	Miss Lennox	3.15 p.m.
"	"	Wimbledon Common	Miss Daisy Gibbs, Chair: Mrs. Dacre-Fox	5 p.m.
Monday, 25	.....	West Croydon, 2, Station Buildings	Working Party. Address by Miss Wynne	3 p.m.
Tuesday, 26	.....	Baling, 35, Warwick Road	Committee Meeting	8 p.m.
"	"	Ilford, 68, Cranbrook Road	Members' Meeting	8 p.m.
"	"	Wimbledon, 9, Victoria Crescent, The Broadway		
Wednesday, 27	.....	Ilford, Manor Park, The Rabbits	Stall Working Party	4 p.m.
"	"	Islington, Highbury Corner	Miss M. Harvey	8 p.m.
"	"	Kilburn, Messina Avenue	Miss Hicks	8 p.m.
"	"	Streatham, 34, Hopton Road	Working Party. Hostess: Mrs. Pilcher	8 p.m.
"	"		Inchbold	3 to 6 p.m.
Thursday, 28	.....	West Croydon, 2, Station Buildings	Working Party	8 p.m.
"	"	Islington, 347, Goswell Road	Members' Rally	6.30 p.m.
"	"	Radlett Parish Hall	At Home	3 p.m.
"	"	Streatham, 27, Copely Park	Working Party. Hostess: Mrs. Pilcher	3 to 6 p.m.
Friday, 29	.....	Croydon, Katherine Street	Miss Hardy, Mrs. Cather	8 p.m.
"	"	Stratford, The Grove	Miss Elsa Myers	8 p.m.
"	"	Streatham, 37, Drewstead Road	Working Party	3 to 6 p.m.
"	"	Sydenham, High Street	Miss Bain, Miss Downing	8 p.m.

Thursday, November 16, Albert Hall Meeting, 8 p.m.

### BISSELL'S

#### BALL BEARING CARPET SWEEPERS

are indispensable in every household.



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Goods sent on Approval upon receipt of half our List Price as Deposit. We refund Deposit (less postage) if not satisfactory and returned in good condition.

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FRINGE NETS MADE OF HUMAN HAIR, large size, 5/6 per doz; smaller size, 4/- per doz.



Toupee only 10/6 or 8/6

Switches of Pure Human Hair.

15 in. 2/6

12 in. 3/6

10 in. 4/6

8 in. 7/6

6 in. 12/6

Any length to order.



**HENDON AND GOLDER'S GREEN.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Wyatt, Derby House, Hendon.  
Office: 25b, The Parade, Golder's Green.  
Numbers of members are needed to take part in the canvass of municipal voters which has already started. It is hoped that all who have returned from their holidays will take their part in the work of the shop and in selling at the pitches, especially on Saturday afternoon.

**ILFORD.**  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Haslam, 55, Cranbrook Road.  
Members and friends are urged to attend the business meeting on Tuesday next (see programme). Suggestions of all kinds will be most welcome. Tickets for Albert Hall, Upper Orchestra, 6d., should be applied for early.

**ISLINGTON.**  
Office: 31, Goswell Road, E.C. Hon. Sec.—Miss E. M. Casserley.  
Will all those who are dressing dolls please do their best to finish and return them by the end of this month, in order that an exchange may be effected. More help is needed in paper selling at the Holloway Road pitch. Will volunteers please apply to the secretary, or to Miss Crosson, the captain of the pitch.

**KENSINGTON.**  
Shop and Office—143, Church Street, Kensington W. Tel. 2115 Western. Hon. Sec.—Miss Evelyn Sharp.  
Active preparations are being made for interesting local women householders in the progress of the Bill that is to give them a Parliamentary vote; particulars of the campaign may be obtained at the shop, where helpers may also give in their names as paper-sellers and canvassers, or hand in offers of drawing-room and studio meetings which will be of real service during the next three months. Members are asked to keep themselves disengaged and to engage their friends for the first Kensington At Home of the season, to be held on Wednesday afternoon, October 4—place of meeting to be announced next week. Mrs. McKewen (late of the Brighton W.S.P.U.) as paper-seller and paper-seller; Miss S. Marston as paper-seller. Miss Squier, whose business hours will now prevent her from selling papers, is a real loss, though she will work for the Union in the evenings. Who will take her place in the afternoon? Jumble Sale: parcels (clothes, boots, books, china, hardware, etc.) to be sent to Mrs. Sloane, 41, Lansdowne Crescent, W.

**LEWISHAM.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bouvier.  
Office—32, Mount Pleasant Road, Lewisham.  
At Home, Tuesdays 3 to 5, and Thursdays 5 to 9 p.m.  
Mrs. Cameron Swan, with Miss H. Townsend in the chair, aroused a great deal of interest at a splendid meeting at the Catford tram terminus on Sunday. Will members remember the Whist-Drive at Manne Meadow, Blackheath, on Saturday, September 30, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets (1s. 6d., including refreshments) can be obtained from the secretary and from other members of the committee. An urgent appeal is made to give two whist-drive prizes, i.e. the ladies' prize and another suitable for lady or gentleman. Gratefully acknowledged: 2s. from Mrs. Heap and a parcel for the Jumble Sale. Parcels should be sent carriage paid to Miss Leigh, 62, Manor Park, Lee, S.E. Members will be sorry to learn that we are losing the valuable services of Mr. and Mrs. Heap and their daughters, as they are leaving this district.

**N.W. LONDON.**  
Office—215, High Road, Kilburn, Tel. 1122, Hampstead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell.  
Will all members who have now returned to Town make a point of calling as soon as possible at the office to hear and discuss arrangements for the Ladies' Glass stall at the Christmas Fair? A very large Jumble Sale is being organised, the proceeds of which will go entirely to providing funds for this. Will members not only send all they can themselves but canvass their friends? They are reminded that everything fetches money at a Jumble Sale. Members who are clever with their needle, their pen or their brush are asked to make articles for the Christmas Fair which can be exchanged or sold. Will paper-sellers please come along?

**RADLETT.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. White, Gravels.  
The committee are giving an At Home on Thursday next (see programme) at which Lady Sybil Smith has kindly consented to sing. It is hoped that members and friends will attend in great numbers at this first social gathering after the holidays. Anyone who has made or begun the article for the furnishing stall of the Christmas Fair is particularly asked to exhibit it on this occasion and to make suggestions as to what can be made.

**STREATHAM.**  
Shop and Office—4, Shrubbery Road, Streatham.  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Leonora Tyson.  
Last Sunday's meetings in Brockwell Park and on Streatham Common were most successful: Mrs. Bouvier and Miss Taylor being (respectively) the speakers. Helpers are needed on Sunday on Streatham Common, and for the paper pitch on Fridays and Saturdays. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Tyson, 1s.

**WEST HAM.**  
Hon. Sec.—Miss D. M. Hooper, 115, Windsor Road.  
It is hoped that local members will make known the open-air meetings at The Grove, Stratford, on Friday evenings, and attend if possible. Paper-sellers are especially needed.

**WIMBLEDON.**  
Shop and Office—9, Victoria Crescent, Broadway, Wimbledon, Tel. 1092, P.O. Wimbledon.  
Hon. Organising Sec.—Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hall, Marton, Surrey.  
The Saturday evening meetings in the Broadway have proved an enormous success, and are much appreciated by large and attentive audiences. Last Saturday Mrs. Hearl, a new speaker, proved a most effective chairman, and after a few well-chosen and forcible remarks, called upon Mrs. Dacre-Fox, who lucidly explained the Conciliation Bill. At the Sunday afternoon meeting on the Common, Mrs. Huggitt was in the chair. Miss E. Myers addressed the huge crowd upon unequal pay for men and women, sweating, and kindred subjects.

## Home Counties.

**BEDFORD.**  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Smelt, 22, Goldington Avenue.  
It is proposed shortly to hold a meeting for the annual election of the committee, and it is hoped that all members will make an effort to attend. As soon as the date is fixed notice will be sent out.

**BEXHILL-ON-SEA.**  
Shop: 25, Station Road.  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Holden, 19, Erversley Road.  
Very interested audiences attended meetings held at Warrior Square, St. Leonards. On Monday and Saturday last week the speaker was Miss Evelyn Billing, Miss McMunn in the chair.  
Saturday, Sept. 23—Hastings, Wellington Square. Speaker: Miss Evelyn Billing, 7.30 p.m.

**BRIGHTON, HOVE AND DISTRICT.**  
Office—4, North Street, Quadrant, Tel. 3322 Nat. Organiser: Miss G. Miles.  
Good week-end meetings have been held, Mrs. Violet Jones, Miss Whitworth and Miss Streethead being the speakers. More than the usual number of papers were sold, and good collections were taken. For Christmas Fair arrangements see page 812.

**CANTERBURY AND SOUTH KENT.**  
Organiser—Miss F. E. M. Wessely, Twyford, 25, Bouverie Road West, Folkestone.

Canterbury members and friends are reminded of Miss Vida Goldstein's coming meeting, at which Mrs. Haverfield has kindly consented to take the chair. They are urgently asked to sell tickets and make it known. Offers of help should be made to the organiser, at the County Hotel. All South Kent members are reminded of the Soap, Scent and Handkerchief Stall, and are asked to respond to the appeal made by the Bazaar Secretary, Miss Worsfold, on page 808.

**EASTBOURNE.**  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Sibella Jones, 19, Southfields Road.  
During the past week a series of meetings has been held near the Eastern Bannard, at which the speakers were Miss Haslam and Miss Evelyn Billing. Lady Stout kindly spoke on Friday, both morning and evening. Large crowds had assembled, and showed keen interest in the speeches. Miss Haslam was in the chair. Other speakers were Miss Margetson and Miss East. All the meetings have been very successful, papers sold well, and collections were taken. Twelve dozen Votes for Women have been sold weekly.

**HITCHIN, LETCHWORTH, & DISTRICT.**  
Hon. Secs.—Mrs. M. Price, "Hiawatha," Icknield Way, Letchworth; Mrs. E. B. Impoy, 2, Whitbush Road, Hitchin.

All readers of Votes for Women are asked to make an effort to be present at the demonstration in Howard Park, on September 30, 3.30 p.m. This is a thinly populated district, and there must be a good crowd. Dr. Pethick and Mrs. Crawley are organising fortnightly propaganda meetings, and members are wanted to sell papers, take collections, etc. Sewing meetings every Tuesday afternoon. Paper-selling in the shopping centre of Letchworth every Saturday, 7 p.m. Sales are rapid, but more sellers are needed. Thanks to Miss Hull for her help.

Saturday, Sept. 23.—Hitchin, Market Place, Mrs. Price, 3.30 p.m. Letchworth, Market Place, Mrs. Kidd, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 26.—Hitchin, High Street, Mrs. Price, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 30.—Letchworth, Howard Park, Demonstration, Miss Evelyn Sharp, Mrs. Mansel. Chair: Miss F. Cartwright, M.A.

**PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.**  
Organiser—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 4, Pelham Road Portsmouth, and 61, Oxford Street, Southampton.  
The help given in speaking by Mrs. Burman, a Birmingham member, is much missed. Members are asked to attend the open-air meetings, and not to forget to save and collect articles for the Jumble Sale in October. A series of drawing-room meetings are being arranged, leading, it is hoped, to big indoor meetings. The organiser hopes members will make a point of attending the members' meetings (see below). Paper-sellers are urgently needed.

Friday, Sept. 22.—Portsmouth, Town Hall Square, 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 26.—Portsmouth, Town Hall (outside), Paper-selling, 7 to 7.30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 27.—Southampton, Clock Tower, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 28.—Southampton, 61, Oxford Street, Members' Meeting, 6.30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 29.—Portsmouth, 4, Pelham Road, Members' meeting, 6.30 p.m.

**RAYLEIGH.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Warren, B.A., The White Cottage.  
Will members volunteer to help with the canvass of municipal women voters in Rayleigh and Southend? Work parties are being held every week for the Christmas Fair and Fair. All members, sympathisers, and their friends are welcome. Will those unable to be present do work at home? The Hon. Sec. will be glad to send all particulars.

**READING AND NEWSBURY.**  
Shop and Office—23, Market Place.  
Organiser—Miss Stella Fife.

An outdoor meeting was held at Bracknell on Saturday, September 16. Mrs. Mansel Pleydell, who took the chair, kindly lent her landau for the occasion, and Miss Dale and Miss S. Fife spoke, and new friends were made and interest aroused. Members and friends are asked to send suggestions and offers of help for work for the Bazaar Stall to Miss Cobb, at above address.

**REDHILL.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Cather, The Red Cottage, Cavendish Road.

Nurse Lindsay addressed a large crowd at Ladbroke Road, on Saturday evening. Mrs. Cather was in the chair. Signatures are being collected for the petition for the release of Margaret Murphy. Special thanks to Nurse Lindsay, who has interviewed the nurses at the hospitals, and canvassed from house to house with much success; also to men sympathisers who have taken the petitions round to their works and clubs. All members are asked to get as many of their friends as possible to promise contributions for the Christmas Fair. Members are reminded of the special meeting to be held on Wednesday (see below). The branch is shortly losing the invaluable services of Mr. and Mrs. Richmond, who are leaving Redhill. Mrs. Richmond was the founder of the local union, and has been for two years its indefatigable secretary. Mr. Richmond's unfailing support and help will be greatly missed, and the charming designs done by Mr. Ray Richmond for the W.S.P.U. show case will be impossible to replace. Members must all work doubly hard to make up for their loss.

Saturday, Sept. 23.—Carlton Room, Station Road, Rummage Sale, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 27.—Carlton Room, Members' Meeting, 8 p.m.

**STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.**  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Bland, "Mowara."  
On September 11 and 18 most successful open-air meetings were held on the village green. A workers' meeting was held at "Mowara" on Sept. 14, by kind invitation of Mrs. Nicholls. Mr. James offering the use of Rankin Hall for meeting in case of wet weather. On each occasion the speakers were Miss Wolff and Miss V. A. Bland, Mr. Nicholls and Mrs. Grant rendering valuable help as flag-bearer and sellers of Votes for Women and other literature. It is intended to hold meetings in the adjacent villages during the week.

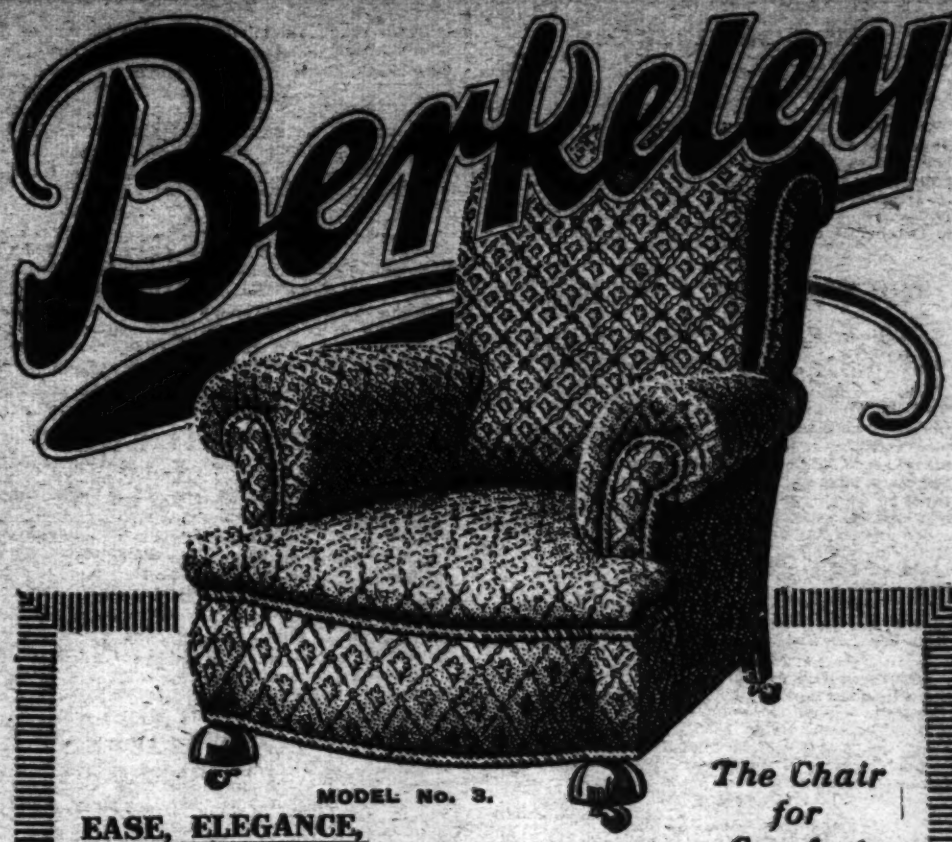
**WEST AND NORTH KENT, AND THANET.**

Organiser—Miss Evelyn Billing, 1, Dundonald Road, Ramsgate.  
Tunbridge Wells members are asked to attend the business meeting (see below) in large numbers. Agenda: The working up of a meeting in the Great Hall on October 24. Miss Vida Goldstein has kindly promised to be one of the speakers. Full details later.  
Wednesday, Sept. 27.—2, Mayfield Road, Boyne Park, 3 p.m.

## The Midlands.

**BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.**  
Office—97, John Bright Street, Tel. 1422 Midland.  
Organisers—Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Reed.

Tickets, 1s. and 6d., may now be obtained from the office for the meeting at the Midland Institute on Monday, October 2, at 8 p.m., at which Mrs. Brinkley will speak. The first weekly meetings will be held on Wednesday, October 4, at 3 and 5 p.m., at Queen's College, when Mrs. Penn Gaskell will be the speaker. Will members who have guests for the Christmas Fair and Fete please send them to the office when they are ready, so that they may be exchanged for jewelry and glass. Members who will hold evening parties in their own homes are asked to send in their names to Miss Reed as soon as possible.



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**DERBY.**  
Organiser—Miss Brewer, 4, Lime Avenue.  
Local members are helping the N.U.W.S.S. with a public meeting to be held in the Temperance Hall on Monday, September 25, at 8 p.m., when Lady Willoughby de Broke will speak on the Conciliation Bill. A large attendance is anticipated.

**LEICESTERSHIRE.**  
Office—11, Bowling Green Street, Leicester. Tel. 1718 Leicester. Organiser—Miss Dorothy Pethick.  
A sewing meeting will be held every Friday as below. Tea will be provided at a small charge, and ladies and gentlemen are wanted as much as needles and thread. The help of every member is needed to raise the £100 promised in the name of Leicestershire. Let no one think it can be raised without her assistance. Tickets for the Albert Hall meeting, November 16, are now obtainable from the shop and should be booked at once. Members, take note! The Waterloo Hall, Waterloo Street, has been booked for Mrs. Israel Zangwill's famous lecture, "Aunt Sallicia," on Tuesday, October 3. Admission is free. Lord Lytton and Miss Vida Goldstein will speak in the Victoria Galleries on Monday, October 16. A "Progressive Games" Social will be held on Thursday, October 12, to raise funds for buying materials for the sale. Tickets (1s. each) may now be had at the shop.  
Friday, Sept. 22.—G.F.S. Room, St. Martin's, Sewing Meeting, 3 to 9 p.m.  
Friday, Sept. 29.—G.F.S. Room, St. Martin's, Sewing Meeting, 3 to 9 p.m.

**NOTTINGHAM.**  
Office—4, Carlton Street, Tel. 4311.  
Organisers—Miss Roberts and Miss Crocker.

Will members please call at the shop for invitations to Mrs. Zangwill's meeting at the Lecture Hall, Mechanics' Institute, on October 4. The first Sewing Meeting will be held at the shop on Tuesday, 26 September, from 3 to 9 p.m. Tea given by Miss Burgis, assisted by Mrs. Denman. The permanent loan of one machine till the Fete has been secured; it is imperative to have another throughout the time. Will anyone come forward in the matter? Gratefully acknowledged to the fund for materials: Mrs. Shepherd 10s., Mrs. and Miss S. Simon 2s. 6d., Miss Davies 5s., Mrs. Thorpe one guinea, Miss Burgis 10s., Miss Lewis 23s. Much more than this amount is needed, and a great deal of valuable time will be saved if friends will send their contributions in as soon as possible.  
Tuesday, Sept. 26.—4, Carlton Street, Sewing meeting, 3 to 9 p.m.

## West of England.

**BATH.**  
Hon. Organiser—Mrs. Mansel.  
Several meetings are being held in preparation for the great meeting at the Guildhall, on Sept. 29, at which Miss Vida Goldstein and the Rev. Ivory Cripps will speak. There will be a drawing-room meeting at Mrs. Macintyre's to-day, Friday, and open-air meetings during the week (see below). The Guildhall meeting will be free, and Miss Vida Goldstein will speak on "Legislative Results of Woman Suffrage in Australia." No pains must be spared to secure a large attendance. A leaflet has been issued appealing for contributions and subscriptions towards the Bath stall at the Christmas Fair. A most kind present of metal and woodwork is acknowledged from Mrs. Graham, and 10s. from Mrs. Oldfield, and 10s. from Miss Alice Perkins.  
Friday, Sept. 22.—Lonsdale, Combe Down, At Home, Mrs. Mansel, Miss Alice Perkins (New York, U.S.A.) Hostess: Mrs. Macintyre, 3.30 p.m.; Tiverton, Mrs. Mansel, 3 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 26.—Bath Club, Mrs. Mansel, Miss Williams, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday, Sept. 27.—Bathurst & Pitts and the Gas Works, Green Lane, Mrs. Mansel.  
Friday, September 29.—Guildhall, Miss Vida Goldstein, by Rev. J. Ivory Cripps, M.A. Chair: Mrs. Mansel, 3 p.m.

**BRISTOL.**  
Office—37, Queen's Road, Clifton, Tel. 1333.  
Organiser—Miss Annie Kenney.

The weekly At Home will re-commence in the Victoria Rooms on October 2, when the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield will be the speaker. Mrs. B. T. Daniell has kindly consented to sing. Will members and sympathisers make these At Homes widely known? A jumble sale will be held next month. Will all members and sympathisers send their goods to Mrs. Malcolm Evans, 7, Alexandra Road, Clifton, who has kindly lent her garage for the storing of goods. Mrs. Lehman, Rock Mount, Strimphampton, has kindly promised to be secretary; any communications for Jumble Sale should be addressed to her. Miss Alice Walters, with the help of an active committee, is organising dramatic entertainments, and it is hoped that all the Wards in Bristol will be visited. The organiser is anxious to raise £250 before the end of the year. There is so much to be done—new ground to be broken and meetings to be held all over the West of England—rent for offices and secretary's salary. This all means that money is needed.

**CHELTHAM.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Reginald Ferguson, Bedford Lodge, College Road.

Most holiday-makers being home again, it is hoped that members have returned full of enthusiasm and ready for the work of making autumn meetings successful. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence has kindly promised to speak at the Town Hall on November 8. No doubt members have been busy during the holidays with articles for the Christmas Fair and Fete. Time is getting on and Cheltenham must not be outdone by other centres.

**CIRENCESTER.**  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Davis, Celly Hill.  
Miss Platman hopes to arrange a meeting in Cirencester the first week in October, at which Miss Evelyn Sharp will speak. Offers of help to advertise the meeting should be sent to the hon. sec.

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**  
Organiser—Miss Platman, Oak Villa, Stratford Road, Stroud.

Stroud promises to be a good centre for meetings. Many are being arranged. Helpers of all kinds are needed. Who will lend their drawing-rooms? Miss Evelyn Sharp will be in the district early in October, when a public meeting is being arranged, and the organiser hopes to have offers of help. The loan of a bicycle to cover this part of the country where there are no trains would be gladly welcomed.

**ILFRACOMBE AND BARNSTAPLE.**  
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—Mrs. du Santoy Newby, St. Mary's, Broad Park Avenue, Ilfracombe.  
Hon. Lit. Secretary—Miss Hall, Warring Home, Larkstone, Ilfracombe.

Several members have promised to contribute to the West of England bag and basket stall. Will others also give their help? Paper-sellers are urgently needed. Anyone who can spare even a short time for this important work should communicate with Miss Hall. Many thanks to Miss Sims and to Miss Funnell for their help during their holidays.

## Wales.

**OARDIFF.**  
Hon. Sec.—Miss C. Speed, Elm Cottage, Llanlhaen.  
During the week beginning October 6, Miss Douglas Smith will be in the Cardiff district, and it is essential that there should be a full list of meetings arranged for her. Preliminary steps have been taken for an evening meeting in Llanlhaen, and it is hoped that drawing-room or evening meetings will be held in Whitehaven and Llanlhaen. Offers of help, financial or personal, to enable the success of these meetings, or to visit other centres for others, will be gladly welcomed.



# Eastern Counties.

**CLACKTON-ON-SEA.**  
Shop—4, Rosemary Road.  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Lillias, Holland House.  
It has been found necessary to postpone the date of the Jumble Sale for a week or two; but materials already being collected: gifts of every description will be gratefully received and may be sent as soon as possible to Holland House. The Rev. Canon. Hensell has promised to address a meeting at the Winter Gardens on October 24, further details will be given later.

# North-Eastern Counties.

**BRADFORD.**  
Office—22, Manningham Lane, Thence 4022.  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Beldin, 4, Walmer Villas.  
Hon. Treas.—Mrs. Hardy Roberts.  
A large meeting of members will be held at 9, Walmer Villas, on Wednesday next (see below), to discuss the work of the coming season. A Jumble Sale will take place early in October. Friends are asked to collect as many goods as possible. Miss Beldin is now Vice Secretary, and wants support and help for selling the paper in every possible way. The Monday afternoon teas will be continued and in addition there will be coffee suppers, and a short address every other Saturday. More funds are needed, as the work this season must not be handicapped for lack of money.  
Wednesday, Sept. 25.—9, Walmer Villas, Tea, 4 to 6.

**BOLTON, BURY, AND DISTRICT.**  
Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Mrs. Margaret E. Farrington, 118, Dorset Street, Haigh, Bolton.  
Mrs. Farrington will be pleased if members will try and attend the meetings held at her house, as it will be difficult to make progress in the work unless all take a part. There are many problems to be discussed to advantage if only members would rally. It is hoped to hold Drawing Room Meetings and Whist Drives during the winter.

**HULL.**  
Organiser—Miss Key-Jones.  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Harrison, 14, Welbeck Street.  
The house-holders' canvass is being successfully worked by the members, and an excellent result is expected. Mrs. Rymer, assisted by Mrs. Watier and Mrs. Herbert Holmes, held an At Home on Wednesday, to make final arrangements about the Christmas Fair and Pété.

**NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.**  
Office—71, Blackett Street.  
Organiser—Miss Laura Ainsworth.  
Members are all asked to concentrate on Miss Pankhurst's meeting on October 27, and on the Bazaar on October 30. The office is besieged for tickets, and there is a lot of work to be done. The organiser will be glad to hear from people who can give any help. Offers of drawing-rooms for meetings are invited. The Jumble Sale in Jarow will be held towards the end of October. Will members please send parcels to office marked "Jumble Sale"? Members are reminded of the choir practices held at the office every Wednesday, at 7.30 p.m. All friends are welcome. Sunderland and South Shields members are asked to give all possible help to make Lady Muir Mackenzie's At Home successful. Full details and particulars will be given later. Will all members who are willing to take a stall, or part of a stall, at the Bazaar on October 30 kindly write to Mrs. Taylor (Chippendale, Warb) before September 29, on which day the list of stallholders will be sent to be printed? Will members say what kind of stall they wish to hold or take part in?  
Saturday, Sept. 23.—Working Party, 3 p.m.

**SCARBOROUGH.**  
Shop—32, Huntriss Row.  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Suffield, 13, New Queen Street.  
Hon. Treas.—Dr. Marion Mackenzie, 7, The Yalley.  
Miss Harvey and Miss Suffield addressed an open-air meeting on the North Side, on Monday night. There was an enthusiastic crowd, and the presence of some "anties" caused a good deal of the paper. Many thanks to Miss A. Brown for the help she gave at the meeting. Thanks also to Mrs. Shuttleworth Hoden, of Derby, who is paying for 3 copies of Votes for Women to be sent every week to the workrooms of some of the shops in Scarborough. Mrs. Wardell will be pleased to take orders for home-made toffee, cakes, and sweets. All profits for the shop. Will all the shop stewards ready to resume duties please notify Miss Harvey?

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT.**  
Organiser—Miss Adele Pankhurst. Hon. Treas. (pro tem.)—Miss Coxhill, Miss Butterworth. Shop—26-28, Chapel Walk, Sheffield. Tel.: Central 2895.  
Fortnightly At Homes are to be held at 45, Marlborough Road, alternately afternoon and evening. The speakers will include Mrs. Scudfield, Mrs. Green, and others. Fuller announcements will be made later. Members are requested to offer suggestions as to the best use to make of the time of Lady Isabel Margeson, and Miss Vida Goldstein whilst in Sheffield. Lady Isabel has consented to give from October 24 to 27, and Miss Goldstein from November 2 to 4. Mrs. Arnold, Miss Baker, and Miss Green are arranging meetings. Others will be welcomed. The organiser would like Miss Goldstein to address a teachers' meeting, if members who are teachers will communicate with her. Contributions to the shop fund and saleable goods for the Bazaar are urgently needed. All willing to work for the Bazaar should communicate with Mrs. Pawson, Ecclesfield Vicarage, Ecclesfield. Miss Schubert wants more goods for the Jumble Sale. Grateful thanks to Miss Schuster, Miss Cotwell, Miss Butterworth, and others for their work whilst the organiser was away. To-day (Friday) Miss A. Pankhurst will address a meeting of the N.U.T. at Rotherham, at 8 p.m.

**YORK.**  
Office—5, New Street, Telephone, 692.  
Organiser—Miss Key-Jones.  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Coultate, 23, Melbourne Street.  
Mrs. Coultate's and Miss Hyde's At Home, which was unavoidably postponed, takes place to-day (Friday). Members are urged to attend, as with them rests the success of the Autumn Campaign. Paper-sellers are wanted for Saturday mornings.

# North-Western Counties.

**LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.**  
Office—11, Renshaw Street. Tel.: 2781 Royal.  
Organiser—Miss Davies.  
Will all members and friends make an effort to attend a meeting on Thursday next (see below), to discuss some arrangements for the autumn and winter, and to suggest others?  
Thursday, Sept. 28.—11, Renshaw Street, 8 p.m.

**MANCHESTER.**  
Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss Mabel Capper, 21, Oxford Road.  
Members are reminded of the important meeting that will be held on Thursday next. All are urgently asked to attend, as plans for the winter campaign are to be discussed. The provisional committee is reminded of the meeting to be held on Monday evening, Friday, Sept. 22.—21, Oxford Road, Members' night, 7-10 p.m.  
Monday, Sept. 25.—21, Oxford Road, Committee Meeting, 7.30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 26.—21, Oxford Road, Dramatic Club, 7 p.m.  
Thursday, Sept. 28.—Onward Buildings, Deansgate, Members' Meeting, 8 p.m.

**SOUTHPORT.**  
Office—1, Post Office Avenue, Lord Street.  
Hon. Sec.—Miss Elsie Ashby.  
The winter campaign opens on Wednesday, October 4, when an At Home will be held at the above address at 7.30 p.m. The hostess will be pleased to welcome members and their friends. Refreshments will be served during the evening. It is earnestly requested that all members will be present and if possible bring a friend, as it will be the first of a fortnightly series of social and educational evenings to be held every other

Wednesday during the winter months. At the end of the season it is hoped that the result will be an increase in the list of local members.

# Scotland.

**DUNDEE AND EAST FIFE.**  
Office—51, Northgate. Organiser—Miss Fraser Smith, N.J. Hon. Sec.—Miss McFarlane.

Will members please note that the weekly meetings in the office are to be held on Wednesday this year, beginning on October 4? Miss Grant has kindly promised to speak at the first meeting on the position of women in India. Miss Grant's personal knowledge of India will make her address especially interesting, and it is hoped that many members will make a point of being present and bringing friends. The organiser will preside, and the autumn programme will be discussed. Both Miss Vida Goldstein and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence are to visit Dundee in October, so there will be plenty of work for all.

**EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND.**  
Office—5, Melville Place, Queensferry Street.  
Shop Secretary—Miss Edith Hudson.  
Organiser—Miss Lillian Mitchell. Tel.: 6122 Central.

All work is being concentrated on the Kilmaronock Burghs by-election. Many thanks to those members who have helped in taking charge of the shop. It was impossible to hold the Thursday At Home this week, but members are asked to make a point of coming on Thursday, September 28, so that they may discuss plans for the winter's work.  
Thursday, Sept. 28.—8, Melville Place, 8 p.m.  
Friday, Sept. 29.—The Mound, 8 p.m.

# MEN'S POLITICAL UNION For Women's Enfranchisement.

Offices: 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.  
Telephone: City 5573.  
Hon. Organising Sec.—Victor D. Duval.  
Last Sunday a most successful meeting was held in Hyde Park, at which nearly one thousand interested and very sympathetic people gathered round the lorry and listened to the speeches from Mr. H. A. Franklin, Mr. B. D. Duval, and Lieut. J. L. Cather. It is hoped that these meetings will take place every week until the end of October (for speaker, see programme). Donations to cover the cost of these and other expenses are much needed, and will be very gratefully received.  
Birmingham.—52, Holly Road, Handsworth. The autumn campaign will soon be open, and members are asked to send their names to Mr. Willson, stating in what way they can help. The treasurer appeals for donations to cover costs of this campaign, and gratefully acknowledges 1s. from Miss Bull, and 1s. from "A Friend."

**THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.**  
2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 1214.  
President—Mrs. Forbes Robertson.  
Organising Secretary—Miss G. M. Conolan.  
The Lyceum Theatre has been taken for Friday October 27, when a Grand Matinée, in aid of the A.F.L. funds will be given. The programme will include a new one-act play by Laurence Housman, and a scene from "A Doll's House," in which Mr. Ben Webster will appear as Torvald and Miss Cecilia Leitus as Nora.

**THE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.**  
President—The Bishop of Lincoln.  
Offices—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.  
The Richmond and New branch held a most successful garden meeting on Saturday last. All those who helped are to be heartily congratulated. A good response has been made to the appeal for funds to further the Church Congress campaign; but more money will yet be needed and gifts of small and large sums will be welcomed by the treasurer. Every effort must be made to make the work and objects of League known to the thousands of clergy and visitors who will be in Stoke at this time. As "Stoke" is a federation of five towns the work will be especially difficult.

**IRISH WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.**  
Office—Antient Concert Buildings, Gt. Brunswick Street, Dublin.  
During the past fortnight the open-air meetings at Kingstown and Phoenix Park, Dublin, have been held as usual, interested crowds listening each time. They were addressed by Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington, M.A., Mrs. Bonson, Mrs. Courtney, Miss Laird, B.A., Mrs. Cousins, Miss Bice, and Miss Fortescue Smith. On September 11 a very fine meeting was held in Portlaoine Town Hall. Mr. James Chambers, K.C., M.P. (Unionist), was in the chair. Mrs. Cousins delivered a convincing address, in which she explained the provisions of the Conciliation Bill. The Hon. Malcolm Macnaghten also spoke. Lady Sybil Smith sang "The March of the Women," for which she was enthusiastically cheered. A resolution calling for the passing of the Conciliation Bill in all its stages next Session was passed without a dissentient. The hall was filled to overflowing, and great credit is due to Mrs. Robinson, P.L.G., on whom the chief share of organisation fell. Owing to the exceptionally fine weather it has been decided to prolong the open-air meetings until the end of September. The usual Tuesday meetings which are held in the above rooms will be resumed in October, and arrangements are being made for a specially attractive and varied programme. A country campaign is also planned, and local centres are requested to communicate with the Committee whenever it is thought possible or desirable to arrange meetings. Throughout the summer the League has largely strengthened its membership, and owing to the spirited propaganda of our members while on holiday in various parts of the country. The sub-committee in charge of meetings meet every Wednesday in our offices at 8 p.m. All members interested in helping at meetings are requested to attend. The Offices are now open as usual between 3.30 and 5.30 p.m.

**THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.**  
President—Mrs. Cecil Chapman.  
Office—5, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge, (opposite Tube Station).

All meetings held during the last week in Norfolk were well attended. Monday an open-air meeting was held at High Common, Hardingham, with the Rev. Pratt, a local clergyman, in the chair, and although quite a small village the men and women came out and listened quietly and attentively to the address by Miss Helen Ogston. On Tuesday, Dereham Market Place was crowded and great interest was shown. Sir Alwyn Fellows lent his Reading Room at Hardingham on Wednesday, and the Hall was full. On Thursday a Social At Home was held in Dereham to meet Mrs. Cecil Chapman and Miss Helen Ogston, who addressed an audience of local ladies—five new members joined and promised to give help to the cause in the constituency. Three have become regular subscribers to Votes for Women. On Friday a meeting was held in Dymondham Town Hall, Dr. Lowe in the chair. The summer campaign is now at an end and members are reminded that this important work can only be recommenced for the autumn if they will do their utmost to contribute to the funds. Thanks to those who have already helped. Those who have so far not responded to the appeal are reminded that these cam-

# QUALITY AND VALUE.

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paigns are of the utmost importance and money is badly needed to carry them on. Members and friends are asked to work hard for the Christmas Sale and to remember the Jumble Sale to be held shortly. Parcels will be most gratefully received at the office. They should have name and address of sender on the outside and be marked "Jumble Sale."

# CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Randall, 23, Wilberforce Road, Finsbury Park, N. Hon. Treasurer.—Miss Monica Whately, 78, Harcourt Terrace, The Holborn, S.W.  
Members are especially asked to give generously to the funds for the Autumn Campaign. A public meeting is being arranged for October—or early in November. Particulars will be given later. The offer of drawing-rooms for meetings and help to advertise the public meetings will be welcome. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Archibald Dunn, 5s.

# CYMRIC SUFFRAGE UNION.

President—Mrs. D. A. Thomas.  
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. M. E. Davies, 27, Racton Road, Fulham, London, S.W.  
There is a vast amount of work to be done during the autumn and winter, and in the Welsh Hive. Everyone must be a worker. Will each member please write at once to the hon. secretary stating what she is willing to do? The following are a few suggestions—  
(1) Organise a drawing-room meeting in your neighbourhood, and try to start a local branch. (2) Send to the hon. secretary for some of the Welsh leaflets, and distribute them outside chapels and concert rooms. (3) Write to any Welsh M.P.'s you may know, and get your friends to do the same, urging them to support the Conciliation Bill. (4) If you can sing, send in your name to the hon. musical organiser, 5, Worcester Street, St. George's Square, S.W., saying

you are willing to co-operate with her in starting a choir for meetings, etc. (5) Always wear the badge (8d. each, post free, from the hon. secretary). The Welsh title and motto arouse great interest. There will be a meeting of the Committee, at 69, Wimpole Street, by invitation of Mrs. Mansell-Moullin, on Monday, September 25, at 8 p.m. Will volunteers offer their services, to attend the Crystal Palace, next Saturday, to give out leaflets to the Welsh people, who are singing at the concert, Gynfa am Byth?

# FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Hon. Organising Sec. (pro tem.)—Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmeley Park, Highgate, N.  
Hon. Corresponding Secretary—Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington Villas, Hove.  
It is hoped that members will make a point of attending the Special General Meeting to be held at Carlton Hall, on Friday, October 13, at 7.15 sharp to elect a new Organising Secretary in place of Rev. H. Clark. Nominations should be sent to the hon. corresponding sec. at least seven days prior to the meeting. A Public Meeting will follow at 8 p.m. when Lady Spicer and Rev. C. Fleming Williams are to be among the speakers. Handbills can be had from the organising secretaries. A most enthusiastic meeting was held at Plymouth, where a new branch has been formed.

# BELFAST WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

Office: 23, Wellington Place, Belfast.  
Members are once more reminded of Miss Goldstein's meeting at 22, Wellington Place, on Wednesday, September 27, at 8 o'clock. The secretary hopes that all are doing their best to make this known. She will be glad of help of all sorts. The poster parade will start from the office on Wednesday shortly after 4. Meetings are now held regularly every Monday at 8 o'clock in the rooms.

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